

Vol. 14

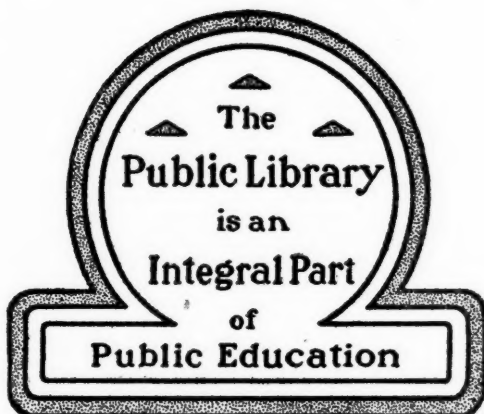
January, 1909

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No. 1

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Public Libraries



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Chicago, Illinois

American Library Association

Publishing Board

34 Newbury Street

Boston, Mass.

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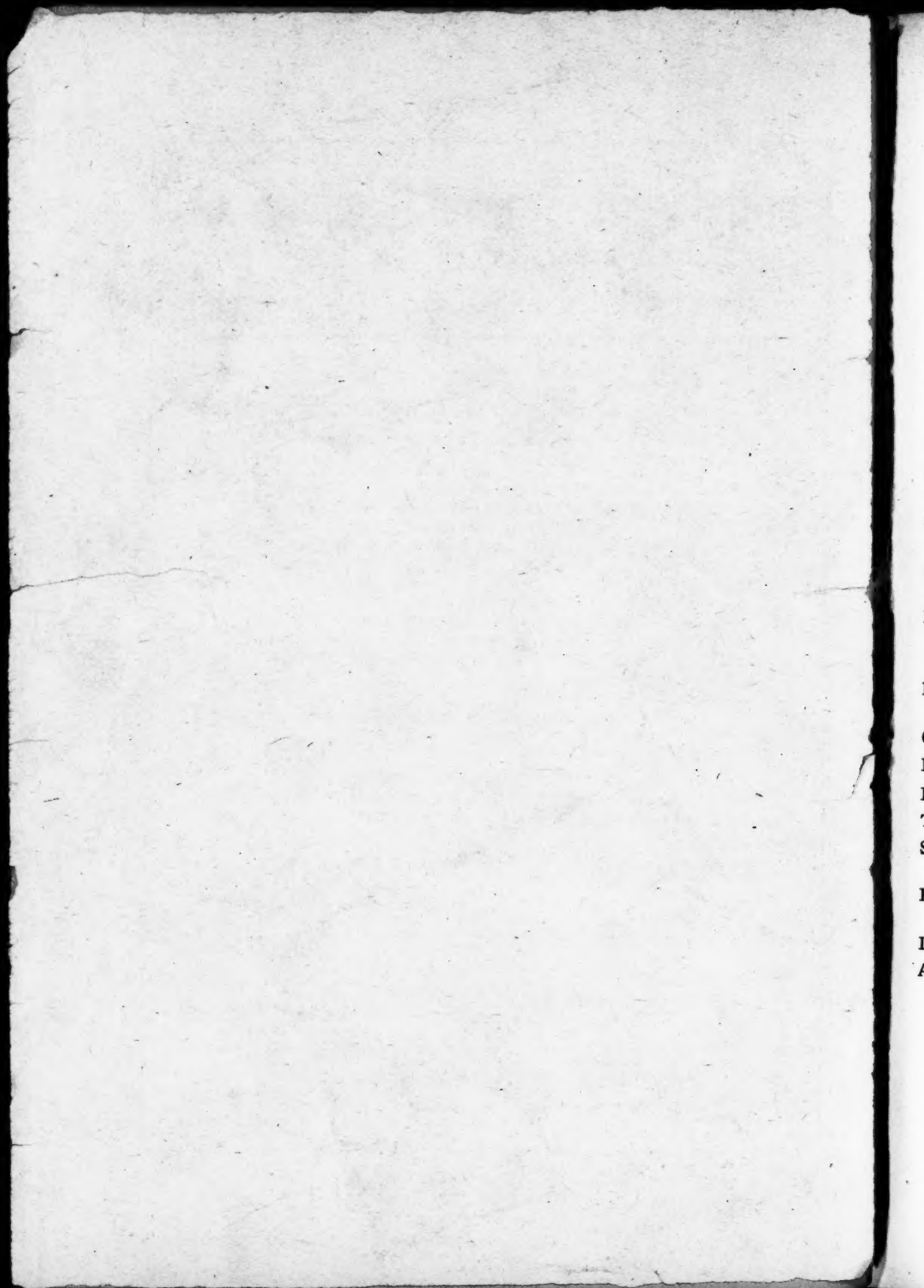
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Public Libraries

A monthly publication devoted to the advancement of library work

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Public Libraries

(MONTHLY)

Vol. 14

January, 1909.

No. 1

Anticipations

W. I. Fletcher, Librarian, Amherst college, Amherst, Mass.

I do not know how others may look at it, but it does seem to me that we are but in the infancy of library development, and I often indulge myself in the anticipatory view of what is coming in the near future. Some of these hopeful views I share with you today.

Among my pleasantest anticipations is that of an increasing professionalism in library work. There has been much discussion of the question whether or not librarianship is a profession. Let us rejoice that whether it has been one in the past or not, it is fast becoming one, and may be made completely professional by such of us as choose, provided we have not only the disposition, but the equipment. There are two quite distinct aspects of the professional method and spirit, which may be distinguished as expertness and scholarship.

Librarianship has been developed greatly in the last generation as a technical pursuit. Much ingenuity has been applied to the devising of methods of doing library work, and systems of classification and cataloging, of conducting the purchase of books and of meeting the wants of readers through reference rooms and children's rooms and branches and special deliveries have been built up and experimented with, until now we have a whole science of library management on its technical side, which is taught and learned like any other technical pursuit. One great need of the present day is that this technical libra-

rianship, which has revolutionized our larger libraries, making them manifold more useful than they were, should be brought to bear upon the smaller libraries, that they, too, may be made more beneficial to the community. So superior in point of real advantage to library users have the larger and up-to-date libraries become that it is admitted on all hands that the librarians in the smaller libraries should be in some way trained in at least the rudiments of this technical library science. Hence the efforts of our own State library commission to secure summer school training for some of the country librarians and to send visitors competent to instruct and advise to others. We are all convinced of the value to even the smallest libraries of the introduction of the modern expert methods and a regular paid agent thoroughly competent to direct in this work and to wake up the more backward communities to real library progress.

On the principle of *noblesse oblige*, it becomes Massachusetts to set the pace in library *intension* (if we may use the word) as she has done in library extension. And the way to do this is to have the enlightened modern methods carried by an enthusiastic and effective representative of the state commission to every remote town and hamlet. So among my anticipations is that of the small rural library, officered by a wide-awake librarian, probably not a library school graduate, but sufficiently skilled to conduct the library on modern principles, having it well classified and cataloged, supplied with the best reference books,

with special provision for the children, and systematic coöperation with the schools, and to make the library in its measure as valuable an asset to the town as that of Boston is to the city.

But I spoke of another side of professional librarianship, and it is on the other side, that of scholarship, that my anticipations dwell most fondly. Here, again, it is a case of extension and intensification. While I look for the extension of the technical librarianship which we have evolved to the whole library system, I take more interest in the intensifying of the library profession on the scholarly or bookish side, and I anticipate with confidence, in view of many recent utterances and a very apparent trend in library thought, the transfer of some of the emphasis that, in the few past decades, marking the building up of our library systems, has been laid on the technical side, to the more truly professional side of the calling. For if we have here a profession it must be by virtue of its having, to a marked degree, a cultural and scholarly side. So long as there is a mere technique, most of which is concerned with the simple handling of books as objects, it were pretentious to call it a profession. Only as the librarian is in a very true sense a professor of books is his work professional. To this end he must not only be a reader and know what is in books as a matter of information, but he must know books in their relations and in their history, and he must know people, as the true professor must know his pupils, so that he can fitly mediate between the two. The "old-fashioned" librarian has lately been spoken of in terms of endearment and of regret for his departure. What he was to the favored few who hobnobbed with him in the sacred precincts of the library, the new-fashioned librarian must be to all comers, "guide, philosopher and friend." In fact, those three words seem to me to be as fittingly applied in describing him (or her) as though they were severally chosen from the whole marvelous vocabulary of the English tongue. *Guide*

—so far the expert, the well-equipped reference librarian, the attendant at the "Ask-questions-here"—desk. *Philosopher*—the one who sees through the outward and apparent aspect of a case, or the presentation of a phase of a subject to its wider and deeper reaches, who knows what people want better than they do themselves, and astonishes them by the universality of his knowledge and equally by his aptness in putting this and that together, and his deftness and quickness in meeting their needs, be they expressed ever so feebly or realized ever so imperfectly. *Friend*—here's the touch that brings in the element of sympathy, without which scholarship is indeed dry as dust. "What care I how wise he be, if he be not wise for me," the seeker for knowledge may well say of the teacher or the librarian who fails to connect and to make his philosophy vital and effective. The men who have made American librarianship have been largely such men as I am trying to describe. We have all known the "old-fashioned librarian." He has his merits, but he was not of the race of Jewett and Winsor and Poole. These were true lovers of books—makers of books, too—learned, facile to the last degree in their use, but how devoted to the idea of serving the public and how successful in imbuing their helpers with the spirit of wise and kindly ministration. You remember the answer of the Ethiopian eunuch to the question of Philip "Understandest thou what thou readest?" "How can I except some man guide me?" Indeed it needs a man, a whole man. (Man here means human being, of either sex.) You will be reminded of the recent paper, "Man more than machinery in a library," which is one of the utterances I referred to as forecasting the time which I am anticipating.

Another of my anticipations is of a better understanding of what constitutes the library's aim and field of work, particularly a better demarcation between the field of the school and that of the library. I cannot but deprecate much of the effort so constantly made to put

the school and the public library in the same category. No doubt they have much in common and may properly cooperate to a very large extent, the library furnishing to the schools the material for an enrichment and broadening of their work, and the schools training up readers to patronize the library and give it that popular use which is its chief reason for existence.

But it is too much to say that they have a common object and aim and are to be conducted on the same principles. It has been said that the educative value of the public library is its only real value, and furnishes the only ground for its support from public funds. I cannot so regard it. Of course, the meaning of the term education can be extended to make it include every possible enlargement of the mental and spiritual range of being, all training of the powers of body, mind and soul. But for clearness of thought it is better to put some limitations on the terms we employ. Is it not a proper limitation of the word education to make it refer to means applied to the individual by others, processes to which the individual is subjected by the community, in the effort to bring about certain well-defined results, mental, moral or spiritual? In what we call self-education the process and aim are similar, but the individual is both teacher and scholar.

Now the function of the library, its essential function, I take to be something quite different. The proper atmosphere of the library is one of freedom and of enjoyment, in short, of recreation. One may use the library as a school, and set himself tasks to be accomplished in the pursuit of knowledge; that is to say, he may carry on in the library the process of self-education, especially with a sympathetic friend and mentor in the librarian. The library has great value for this purpose. But I maintain that this is not its main, its essential function. That I take to be soul culture through communion with books. But even the word culture may carry the idea of a process involving discipline,

and more or less of what we call strenuousness. I would like to find language in which I could fitly express my conception of the utter freedom and spontaneity of the life of the spirit in contact with books, or, rather, through books with other spirits. Some of you may remember to have heard me say something of this sort before. I have more than once taken occasion to refer to the utterances, to me a most felicitous one, of Robert C. Winthrop, at the laying of the cornerstone of the first building of the Boston public library, "This, then, is to be our literary and intellectual Common." Who would ever think of linking Boston common with the schools of Boston as educational institutions, or say that if the Common did not serve the purposes of education it was not worthy of public support. Or take the modern parks upon which our cities now expend their millions annually with no question from anyone as to the wisdom of the expense. Are they educational? Why, yes, one may learn a great deal in them; by the labels on trees and shrubs one may learn botany, at the animal park or cage he may study zoology, in observing the frequenters he may learn much of sociology or economics, but is the park an educational institution? Certainly not, unless the term is much strained. Neither is the library. The fact that it consists of books may make it seem more so than the park, with its lawns and free air and music, games for the children, and rides or drives for their elders, but this is only a superficial distinction. For the chief and most valuable ministration of these same books are closely akin to those of the park. In fact, the influence of the library may well be, and doubtless largely is, corrective of that of the schools. It is often remarked of the public school that it tends to repress and stifle individuality and originality, necessarily running its pupils in one mold.

As against this tendency of the school, the library makes its appeal to each individual on his own ground and affords

the largest opportunity for self-development in utter freedom. Particularly is this true if there is not too much machinery, and means are taken to bring the reader into direct contact with the books; and in the case of young readers especially, reading is not guided in certain set channels, but left free.

Dr Billings, of the New York public library, devoted a large share of his recent address at the dedication of the library of Radcliffe college to an exaltation of that knowledge of books coming from indulgence in the "browsing" habit, and predicted that the chief value of that library in the college would be in its effect upon those who might in it acquire a fondness for certain books whose acquaintance they should make for themselves, coming upon them perhaps by surprise while "browsing."

There has been, of late, in *The Nation*, of New York, an interesting discussion, in letters from various educators, of the possibility of teaching literature. One writer quotes Tennyson as saying, "They will put me in school books, and I shall be called that horrible Tennyson." Certainly the whole subject is one fraught with grave difficulties, but there can be no doubt that the effect of the use of masterpieces of literature in school does often produce the effect feared by Tennyson, and so far as it does we must look to the library as an institution not in league with the library, but as a corrective of it through such means as Dr Billings referred to.

Apart from all this I must insist on the truly recreative function of the library. Whatever value it may have as a correlative influence with the schools and as a helper of all classes in their special pursuits, it will do its best and greatest work as a liberator of spirits, a minister to the higher life, a distributor of that light which never was on sea or land, a handmaid of religion and of the arts.

In close relation to this anticipation of a new emphasis on the cultural and spiritual uses of the library, I anticipate a change in library apparatus, which

shall make it fitter to serve these higher ends. What I have to say here would be but a repetition of what I have recently said in the hearing of most of you, so I will not weary you with a repetition. But I wish to insist again that we must find ways to add more than any of us have yet done of bibliographical apparatus to even the most elaborate and well-made catalog if we would serve our patrons in a scholarly way. I have a project which may never come to anything for an index, best of all index cards issued by the Library of Congress, to the encyclopedias and other books of reference, partly for the articles themselves and partly for the bibliographies attached. Of course, I would not think of having all the articles in an encyclopedia indexed; in fact, I am not sure that I would include more than a few references to the more common encyclopedias. I would, for the most part, index such special encyclopedias as the Jewish and Catholic, Smith's dictionary of Christian antiquities, Julian's Dictionary of hymnology, and many more. And in them I would only index such subjects as those in the pursuit of which one might not at once think of this particular reference book. Certainly if one wants to look up Isaac Watts he should be referred to the Dictionary of hymnology, but it might seem that anyone would know that and think of it. But there are many cases that are different. Mosaics, for example, is admirably treated in the Dictionary of Christian antiquities, and to this article a reference would be most useful. In the third volume of the Catholic encyclopedia just received I notice a long and evidently scholarly article on the Byzantine empire, which it would be a pity for anyone interested in that subject to fail to see, particularly for its bibliography. The Jewish encyclopedia has hundreds of articles on subjects that we might never, on hearing them named, think of as likely to be elucidated in that work. For them references are needed.

Who that had a subject to look up would not think himself fortunate if he

had the privilege of talking with one of the highest authorities on that particular subject and having him say, "In my study of this subject I have found such and such books useful. Most of those to which you are likely to be referred are not worth your while, but these I can recommend." It is precisely this opportunity that is opened to one who is directed to the special encyclopedia or the monograph to which a bibliography is attached. As compared with a long list of titles in a library subject catalog such means of help is infinitely preferable. And there is no greater need in library work than increased facilities for finding the bibliographies and the monographic treatises that are so valuable. The A. L. A. index is but a suggestion of what is needed, and what we may hopefully anticipate as a result of the work of the A. L. A. Publishing Board and the Library of Congress.

But whatever tools and means of research are provided the library will be a barren place which is devoid of the atmosphere of broad and liberal culture, which can only be created by generous personality. So let me conclude my anticipations by expressing the belief that our libraries are to grow in that fine flavor of learning and of humane scholarship, which shall make them worthy of their place at (or, at any rate, very near) the top of all agencies for human betterment, and that the coming generation of librarians will be worthy administrators of so noble an institution.

How do I know that life is worth living unless I learn that somebody else has found it so? Where will I find that? In a book! How shall I know that victories are to be won unless I find the records in books? Men and women who have been successful in life are telling us of this on the printed pages. This is uplifting. A book is nothing but an individual. If you have a public library you have the best men and women of the world as neighbors.—J. C. Canfield.

Binding Records

Anne D. Swezey, bindery assistant, University of Illinois

After a year's trial the binding department of the University of Illinois library has found that a card system may be advantageously substituted for the binding book. The advantages, briefly told are, that the card system permits an alphabetic arrangement of the volumes at the bindery, thereby making information of current binding easily accessible; saves labor in rewriting entries, and minimizes the number of records to keep and consult.

Before taking up the card system we kept our records in the regular binding book, in which each volume is entered when it is ready to go to the bindery. Each volume has a line, and all the lines in the book are numbered from one to five thousand. Thus the arrangement of the volumes in the book is numerical. When a sufficient number of volumes are ready to make a shipment they are sent. At the same time a shipment is sent to the binder a binding letter, or schedule, is sent him in order that he may check up the shipment. This binding letter is copied directly from the binding book. Then the date of the letter is stamped in the binding-sent column. Thus the arrangement in the binding book, and also in the binding letter, is by shipments.

With the card system the binding routine is similar to the order routine. After the binding slip, which is the record for the binder, is made out a copy of it is kept on the binding record card, which is the record for the library.

On the binding card we have a little over a line and a half for the lettering. This is for the title, or that part of the record which is not changed for different volumes. We have places for the color and style of binding. These also remain the same for volumes of one set. The card is ruled as shown, and we have columns for the volume lettering, price, date sent, and date returned. These records would be different for each volume. It will be seen that on our card

we do not have columns for the binding number, remarks, size, or library number. The binding number is unnecessary, because the entries are not made in any numerical order, and the cards are filed alphabetically. We find that we can make all necessary remarks after the volume imprint. We do not use the size in our binding records. If this were desired the record could be made on the line with color and style. We do not put the accession number on the binding records either, so we do not need that space. If this were desired the columns for price, date sent, and date returned could be a little smaller and another column, library number, added. Thus

ing-sent file, the price is entered on it, and the date returned stamped in its proper place. The card is then filed in what we call our binding-receipt index which corresponds to the receipt index in the order department. Here it stays until the next volume in that set is ready to be bound. Then the card is removed from that file and the entries of the new volume added. The volume is ready to go to the bindery, and the card to be filed in the binding-sent file.

Let us see what this saves us in labor. First, we do not need to rewrite the title, style of binding, or color. Second, we do not need to consult, or indeed to keep, a sample back file. When there

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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS LIBRARY:

Binding card

it is possible to have all the information of the binding book on a card.

When the volume is sent to the bindery the card is filed in what we call our binding-sent file. It corresponds to orders-out in the order department. As the orders-out file is an alphabetical file of the orders which have been placed, so the binding-sent file is an alphabetical record of all volumes at the bindery. With this record it is very much easier to find information about a volume sent than when it was necessary to look over the entries on several pages of the binding book.

When the volume is returned from the bindery, the card is taken from the bind-

ing-sent file, the price is entered on it, and the date returned stamped in its proper place. The card is then filed in what we call our binding-receipt index which corresponds to the receipt index in the order department. Here it stays until the next volume in that set is ready to be bound. Then the card is removed from that file and the entries of the new volume added. The volume is ready to go to the bindery, and the card to be filed in the binding-sent file.

Let us see what this saves us in labor. First, we do not need to rewrite the title, style of binding, or color. Second, we do not need to consult, or indeed to keep, a sample back file. When there

is no sample back we do not need to look in the binding book to see how we bound the last volume. All the information of one set is on the card. Third, it is not necessary to keep the index to the binding book. This index is simple, to be sure, but in order to find an entry it is necessary to look in the index and get the number, then find that number in the binding book. This index is only of volumes returned from the bindery. Therefore, it cannot be said to be complete, because it is not current. This current binding file is supplied in the card system by the binding-sent record.

A word as to the comparative expense of the two systems. Getting started on

the cards is more expensive than continuing in the book. Introducing something new and different is generally expensive. A binding book of 5000 lines costs four and a half dollars. One thousand cards cost about five and a half dollars. However, on the 1000 cards are 23,000 lines (our cards are ruled on both sides). For a magazine which has one volume a year, one card will last 23 years, or for a magazine which has two volumes a year, one card will last 11½ years. The greatest expense, we found, was in using a card for single volumes, rebinds, etc. We overcame this by using a heavy slip or a catalog card for those authors of whom we were likely to rebind only one book. In cases of popular authors, like Dickens, of whom we will probably rebind several volumes, we put Dickens on the top line and the titles in the volume column. Thus we can use one card for 23 books of an author and tell at a glance how we bound the last volume.

This system may appeal to librarians who prefer records on cards to records in books. We are very pleased with it in the University of Illinois library, and have told about it, hoping that other libraries may find it helpful.

Advertising Libraries*

Celia A. Hayward, cataloger, Berkeley (Cal.)
public library

Away back in the midst of the centuries, the oldest library of which we know placed over its door the legend: The healing of the soul. A gentle invitation, truly. But in the days when the contents of a library were guarded as crown jewels, that invitation was meant for the few only. Very gradually the library has emerged from the "cloistered reserve" of the olden time. The first advance made was when, by the payment of a fee, a greater number of people were admitted to the library. Next the doors were opened to all who might wish to delve in the treasure.

*Read at a meeting of the first district California library association, at Margaret Carnegie library, Mills college, April 25, 1908.

Later it became the privilege of the few to borrow, and this privilege evolved on the same line—first the few, then the fee, then free use to all. In other words, some were born with literary rights, others achieved them; and now we would thrust upon all, and follow the uninitiated even over their own thresholds to thrust upon them, an appreciation of the delights of reading not only, but of the material advantage to be derived from the free use of the product of the brains of the world.

The library is now not only the intellectual storehouse of a community, but its intellectual power-house as well, and it must string its wires to all accessible places, and so transmit its influence. The library has become aggressive, and to make itself known, to advertise itself, has become such a burning question that every librarian gives it his attention, and the Albany library school now includes advertising in its course of study. I will endeavor to show something of what has been done to reach people who are too busy or too preoccupied to find out for themselves just what the library is capable of doing for them, rather than to attempt to make any suggestions of my own. It is rather curious that people are so difficult to reach when, being reached, the use of the library is so unfailing a source of joy and profit, but so it is.

The traveling library is, of course, a great factor in spreading the use of books. The library of Hagerstown, Md., beginning with 6000 v. in an agricultural county of 500 square miles, and a population of 45,000, circulated in the first year 64,000 v., and that in the face of antagonism on the part of the people from the taxpayers' standpoint. Three years later they circulated 82,000 v., and had established over 60 stations throughout the county. They send out a library wagon, manned by a diplomat who knows just how to interest his clients. He first of all shows an interest in them, knows all about them, and remembers the names of all the babies. Through judicious and un-

tiring energy the whole county has been made a reading community.

Library patrons there are who, when they have read Mary Jane Holmes and Amanda Douglas, and perhaps Carey, and others, when the new book supply is low, will insist that the library has nothing more upon which to feed their starving intellects. Howells complains: "What we have now to satisfy is not a palate, it is a maw, asking to be filled with whatever will produce an agreeable feeling of distention," but he hopefully adds: "It need not always be so," for he evidently thinks that even the maw can be educated.

Some librarians, knowing that the crowd will follow the stream of fiction, cause it to flow throughout the library by placing it on all shelves on the level of the eye, thus relieving the fiction-shelf congestion, and of course always hoping that while the owners of the fiction maw float down the stream they may become aware of the fair fields on either hand. This is a quiet way of advertising.

But the people most anxiously pursued by the librarian with the up-to-date advertising idea are the workers. Mechanics and all others of the world's workers who, through intimate knowledge of the latest developments in their particular line, do better work, evolve new ideas, invent new devices in machinery, or who get new light on sociological problems, raise themselves in the scale of usefulness, and thereby raise the mental and moral average of the community. These are the people with whom to establish a feeling of coöperation.

The newspaper is considered by many the best medium of advertising, for the library as for trade. In an article in *World's Work*, entitled "Libraries that reach all the people," Miss Van Kleeck says that the librarian who published in the daily paper a list of books on some industry, a different subject every day for 30 days, nearly doubled the demand for books in four months.

The Plainfield (N. J.) library has space in two newspapers for a weekly article. They publish lists, together with

articles on some topic of general interest, such as Preservation of local history, Library as an information bureau, Points of library service, etc. Printed slips stating that these newspapers publish each week library news and lists on timely subjects, are tipped lightly to fly-leaves of new books. The literature of various occupations is thus brought out, and can be filed for future use. A list should be annotated and accompanied by an article of sufficient interest to draw attention to it, or how otherwise can it hope to hold its own with other more lurid news of the day?

One library sends out a slip enumerating library wants to a large number of people in the city who are not using the library, as well as to the papers.

"We want business men to call on us for statistics, etc."

"We want railroad men to use our railroad books."

"We want mechanics to tell us what books we need for their study."

"We want taxpayers to see that we are a paying investment." And so on. This can hardly fail to interest many.

Another library sent circulars to proprietors of industrial establishments requesting a visit from some member of the firm and suggestions for books useful in their lines, with the intimation that it would be highly appreciated by the librarian and trustees, and using the occasion to call attention to the large number of books in the library on all subjects.

The library at Sarnia, Ontario, arranged with the town officials to inclose a library leaflet in every envelope sent out from the town offices, so that an explanation of the library and its resources went out with all tax notices, assessment notices, water-rate notices, etc., with the added suggestion that the library belonged to the recipient.

Brooklyn library places placards in stores, factories, and any other available place, where they will be sure to attract attention, giving location of its various branches and other information regard-

ing the library, its resources and privileges.

Another issued a leaflet which brought the library to the notice of visitors to the state fair. Several libraries display vacation literature in its season, not scorning to include booklets of railroad and steamship companies. Bookmarks listing a few books on some special subject constitute another device.

Any library having lecture and exhibition rooms has much of this advertising problem solved. A lecture on an industrial or other interesting topic, with its literature brought to notice, makes the library more definite in the minds of the people; less a place in which to get merely the latest novel or scan the morning paper. An industrial or other exhibit will serve to arouse interest in the literature that will add to the knowledge gained thereby. In proof of this, a shoe exhibit, showing the whole process from the untanned leather to the finished shoe, attracted 400 people daily for two weeks. Bookbinding, glovemaking, butterflies, silkworms, sea shells, different kinds of woods, many things, make interesting exhibits, and serve as well for the article in the library column in the newspaper.

A personal interview is reasonably sure to give results. A library in New York holds informal receptions to the workers in all the different industries in the city. Street car men on one evening, members of the typographical unions on another, and so on, and in each case books of interest to them in their work are in evidence.

But perhaps the most important phase of library advertising lies in gaining the cooperation of the schools, for the library habit acquired in youth will stick. A course of lectures was given at the Jacksonville (Ill.) library on "How to use the library." The high school teachers of history brought their classes, giving the pupils credit in history for work done in the library class. The practical talks were followed by reference problems to illustrate the value of knowing books.

The Newark (N. J.) library, which seems to be particularly alive, displayed 3000 v. of American history for a couple of weeks. The books were removed to the exhibition room and placed upon tables, with signs showing where the various divisions began and ended. Public school teachers brought their classes, that the pupils might be impressed with the importance of the history of their country as represented by the amount of literature, at least.

At the graduation of the New York public schools, speakers representing the library called the attention of the graduates to the variety of ways in which the library could assist them in continuing their education, making a particular point of the advantages of a wide knowledge of the literature of one's own work in life.

Other libraries give history talks to history classes in schools. The Oak Park library issued a letter to the teachers of the public schools, setting forth a series of "don't you knows" what the library was prepared to do for the schools, and particularly for the teachers themselves. It detailed the special privileges extended to teachers, and ended with "Do you know that our telephone number is 373, and that you may make arrangements for your books over it?" Perhaps the last item was the most convincing of all.

The story hour must not be overlooked as a most potent means of advertising. A well-conducted children's room, made cheerful and attractive, is a most important branch of library work, because right here the book habit is formed. The story hour adds that touch which cannot fail to appeal to a child and give him a love of books, of literature, that perhaps nothing else would, and which will surely make his life happier and more complete.

But for getting hold of young people just as they are leaving school and when the library habit is of the most vital importance, I would commend the letter which Librarian Ranck of the Grand Rapids library sent out to 500 pupils

leaving school to go to work. Some might complain that his appeal, "The right start, or don't be a quitter," sounds a bit slangy, but if he reaches the boy that is the main point, and I am sure that letter would appeal to a boy and give him a push in the right direction.

People who have much idle time on their hands and yet must be at their post of duty, as, for instance, firemen, should be the objects of special solicitude. A library might well afford to see that they are supplied with books, books to while away their idle hours not only, but also dealing with up-to-date ideas in fire-fighting. Money so expended might return to the city many hundredfold through lives and property saved.

The live librarian will study the conditions of his own town, and specialize to a certain extent according to those conditions. Then he will endeavor to reach every man, woman, and child within his province by newspaper, by letter, by bulletins, by personal interview, by taking the books to him if that be the only way. One librarian even advocates a library Sunday, when the ministers of the various churches will through their sermons spread the library gospel. One minister who had received a list of religious periodicals on file at the library did, of his own free will and accord, preach an evening sermon to the young people of his flock on the influence of the library.

I haven't heard of any enthusiast setting up library phonographs in public places yet. There are many ways of advertising, and ways will differ according to difference of conditions. Conditions must be met, even to the extent of putting sawdust on the floor and spittoons in convenient places, as a library in a certain lumbering town was compelled to do before the inhabitants could be lured within its doors.

But when all is said, the last and best part of advertising lies in not disappointing your advertisee when you have caught him. When with infinite trouble you have convinced your public that the library is full of treasure that is theirs, it

is tragic if their first approach is met by the blighting frost of indifference on the part of the attendant. Who first meets the people when they enter the library doors should be filled with the spirit of courtesy and helpfulness. Then will your advertising be nobly seconded.

And in our pursuit of the people to be materially benefited let us not forget that after all the library is still for the "healing of the soul."

Records Necessary for the Small Library

Orville P. Coolidge, Public library, Niles, Mich.

Two conditions are essential to the successful library; first, that the reading material be carefully selected and adapted to the needs of the community which it should reach; second, and almost as important, that this material should be so cared for that every portion of it may be utilized to the fullest extent possible. To this latter end records, systematically and accurately prepared, are necessary.

It is not unusual to hear much criticism upon what is called "red tape" in libraries, particularly with reference to the large libraries, where much time is given to the technical work; but a library, whose readers must depend entirely upon the librarian for information in regard to its contents, and the librarian, with no mechanical aids, must rely merely upon her own knowledge of the books, inadequate as it may be, or upon the memory, which so often fails one at the inopportune moment, such a library is apt to serve but half its purpose. The many and elaborate records maintained by large libraries are, of course, impracticable, in fact, almost impossible for the library that has but a small income and but one or two attendants. But simple records, carefully prepared, are fully as valuable to the small library as to the large, for the very fact that a library is poorly equipped emphasizes the need of preserving the little it has with the utmost care and of making every book, every

chapter, every item of information in the library available both to the public directly and particularly to the librarian and through her to the public.

At this point perhaps it would be advisable for me to state that, by the term "small library," I have in mind the library of from 500 to 10,000 v., and, of course, suggestions, that may be useful to libraries of this size, will not perhaps apply at all to larger libraries. In fact, the library of 500 v. will not in all probability be able to maintain all the records possible to the library of 10,000 v., therefore in considering the different ones I will take them up in what seems to me to be the order of their importance.

If a library can provide but one record, the record which will furnish the most information in the smallest space at the least cost with the least expenditure of time, is the accession record, that is, the chronological list of the books in the library. Each book is entered in the accession record in the order of its receipt. The most satisfactory way of keeping this record is in the accession books supplied by the Library Bureau. The condensed accession book, costing five dollars per 5000 lines, is sufficient. Every book (volume and edition) is listed on a separate line. The number of the line upon which the book is entered is taken as the accession number and this number is written in the book, usually on the page following the title page. The condensed accession book has space for the following entries: Date of accession, accession number, author's name, title of the book, place of publication and publisher, date of publication, paging size, binding, source, cost, classification and book number, volume number and remarks. Some of these items may be omitted, particularly the paging and size, which require more time for entry than the others, but most of the items will be found useful for the identification of a book, for the correction of errors and for other information. Later,

the binding items and the loss or withdrawal of a book should be noted.

Thus the accession record shows the exact resources of a library and contains the entire history of every book. In libraries, where the minor records are not provided, the accession book may serve as a withdrawal, order and binding record, statistical record and gift book. The three most practical uses of the accession record are: (1) As a source from which the monthly and yearly reports can be compiled. (2) As a place from which to find the value of a book, which is lost and for which the borrower wishes to pay. (3) As a basis for insurance. In case of fire the insurance agent will demand a statement of the loss, and from the accession book, an easy record to save, the information needed can quickly be secured. On a certain occasion I heard the secretary of one of the state library commissions give her views on the unimportance of the accession record for the small library. A year and a half later, after three small libraries in her state had suffered from disastrous fires, she addressed the same body of persons again and took pains to retract her previous statement and to declare that if a library could have but one record by all means to provide an accession book.

The catalog is the source from which the public learn or should learn what the library contains and the aid upon which the librarian must depend to a very large extent. Access to shelves lessens the use of the catalog, but does not take its place, for no one, not even the librarian, can be sure of the contents of the library by consulting the shelves, regardless of the frequency with which it may be done. A library without a catalog is, as someone has aptly said, like a book without an index.

The advantages of the card catalog over the printed catalog are so obvious that it is hardly necessary to discuss them. The great expense in printing makes it almost impossible for the small library to keep the printed catalog up

to date, and a catalog that reveals only the partial contents of a library is of very little practical use. The card catalog always shows exactly what the library contains at the time one is consulting it. The catalog cards are filed as the books are shelved for circulation and removed when the books are withdrawn. There is still some demand for the printed catalog, particularly from the older readers, who find the card system difficult to understand, but, as the younger readers use the card catalog easily and intelligently, at least I find this to be the case, the objections to it are not likely to be at all serious a few years hence.

The form usually recommended is the dictionary catalog, that is, the author card, the title card (where a book is apt to be called for by its title), and the subject card or cards, arranged together in one alphabetical order. The catalog then shows, first, what books the library has by a certain author; second, what books on a certain subject; third, whether it contains a book by a certain title.

Each catalog card bears the call number, by which one may be guided to the place on the shelves where the book should be located when in. If a library has the accession record, with full entries, I do not recommend adding many items to the catalog cards. Author's name, the title of the book, the number of volumes and copies, and the edition, when a book deals with a scientific or mechanical subject, illustration when valuable, the date of publication and the accession number on the back, are sufficient. Other items are seldom used by the readers and are apt to confuse them, and the time can be used to better advantage in analyzing the books fully, that is, bringing out in the catalog every subject of much importance in each book. Reference and cross-reference cards should also be liberally provided.

The shelf list is a record in which the books are listed in the order in which they are arranged on the shelves.

It is a most important record, in fact, almost indispensable to any but the very smallest library, as it furnishes the only reliable means of taking inventory and of preventing duplication in call numbers. It is often used also as a subject catalog. Every librarian should take an inventory of the books at least once each year to ascertain whether any are missing. It would be a very slow and difficult task to do this without a record, corresponding in form to the arrangement of the books on the shelves. Hence the chief reason for the shelf list. One may use sheets or cards for the shelf list, but the latter method is growing in favor, as space must be left on the sheets for intercalation, and even then they must often be rewritten. A catalog card may be used, or a smaller card, as the information required will occupy but little space. The author's last name, the binder's title, call number and accession number are the only items needed. Different copies, volumes and editions may be entered on the same card.

If a small library is supplied with the three records given above, the accession book, card catalog and shelf list, there will be but few questions in regard to its contents that cannot be answered satisfactorily. Other records may at times facilitate the work of the librarian, but they are not essential, therefore I shall not attempt to consider any of the intricate methods of keeping the minor records, but I will suggest a few methods that may be carried out simply and with little expense.

An easy way to provide a withdrawal record is to add a note of withdrawal with date and cause to the shelf slip, which is of no further use after the book which it lists has been withdrawn. The withdrawal cards should then be filed as a separate record. This method saves rewriting several items and also avoids any extra expense for supplies. Of course when a shelf slip records more than one copy, volume or edition, a new card for the withdrawal record is necessary.

An order record may be supplied by retaining a duplicate copy of each order sheet sent to the firm of whom the library purchases. Add the date of receipt and any other items desired and file in the order of date in a binder. This requires very little work, almost none if one has a typewriter, and little expense. The same method may be used with the binding sheets and monthly reports.

In conclusion, let me add that while I fully appreciate the value of records and realize how handicapped the librarian of even the smallest library must be without any, yet at the same time I do not regard that time expended in the preparation of records to the exclusion of direct and personal work with the public, is spent to the best advantage. The librarian who sits at her desk measuring books, counting cards or endeavoring to make her ledgers models of penmanship, while a child leaves the library with a book unsuited to her age or tastes, or while a man searches aimlessly through the reference shelves for information which a hint from the librarian might assist him to procure easily, or even while a woman desires help in securing a good story, the most frequent cause for interruption, perhaps, such a librarian sacrifices a certain opportunity of assisting her readers to an almost inexcusable loss. Therefore each librarian must after all decide for herself in regard to the most fruitful division of her time, for conditions are seldom the same in any two libraries, but the librarian who constantly watches for a chance to help her readers and impresses upon them her willingness to assist them, and yet utilizes the few spare moments that come to her in rendering accessible what someone has termed her "best assistants," such a person will enable the library which she superintends to extend that far-reaching influence, which is a possibility to the library that is happily administered.

Responsibilities of Librarianship*

F. L. D. Goodrich, University of Michigan
Library, Ann Arbor, Mich.

The responsibilities of librarianship are both negative and positive. Like the speaker of the House of Representatives a librarian is continually having to say no. "No, we do not have the Duchess novels"; "No, we never buy subscription books"; "No, thank you, but we cannot use a set of the War of the rebellion records." A librarian has to say no even to some propositions from the members of the library board. He is responsible to the community for the expenditure of its money, for the time of the help employed, for the manner in which his own time is spent, and it is almost as important to see that certain things are not done as it is to push forward others. On the other hand, in acquiring the habit of saying no, one must not allow himself to pass over the opportunities of saying yes. It may be wise to purchase certain subscription books as issued, and there might be occasions when it would be profitable to accept a lot of pamphlets on woman suffrage. His must be a discerning mind, one keen to separate the essentials from the incidentals in his work. He is responsible for the essentials, and if they are cared for properly the incidentals will tend to adjust themselves.

In this age of great library activity, when we must be doing something all the time, when the children's room, work with the schools, work with factories, a technology reading room, are all pressing their claims, when the library must advertise its resources, attract the public, arrange for lectures and exhibits, there is a grave danger of undertaking too much. A librarian with one or two assistants cannot profitably attempt everything which a city library system like that in Pittsburgh must maintain. Attention has recently been called to a small library which undertakes so many of these activities that the efficiency of any of them seems doubtful. One must

*Read before Michigan State library association, May 28, 1908.

keep his ideals high and plan his work ahead of present possible achievement, but to swamp the library with work is disastrous. When the assistant feels overburdened and knows that he cannot possibly accomplish his allotted tasks he loses interest and does not put forth the effort of which he is capable. This planning and adapting the work to the needs of the community and to the limitations of his resources is one of the greatest responsibilities of librarianship. One must study his community and then develop those phases of library work which will contribute most to its advancement. Experimentation may be necessary, but beware of the fads in the library as well as in other things.

Before the courts, ignorance of the law is never accepted as an excuse for transgressing it. The individual is held responsible to know the law of a community. In like manner, the librarian should be held responsible to know the principles and practice of his profession. It is not possible, it is not necessary, for us all to take a full course in a library school. But we must all study for our profession. For this, first and best, are the *Library Journal* and PUBLIC LIBRARIES, one or both a necessity to a librarian. Second, make it a point to visit other libraries. This is always a part of a course in a library school and is so important that almost no one is excused from it. Third, when possible attend a library summer school, or, at any rate, the library round-tables and conferences which come within reach.

"The responsibilities of librarianship" seems a very inclusive phrase. Librarianship comprises the librarian in charge and all the assistants, the entire staff, the personnel of the library. Each member has certain duties to perform and should be made to feel responsible for them, that the library suffers and the public is defrauded when they are neglected. A sharing of responsibility by all members of the staff, a feeling that it is "our library," that we help to make or mar its efficiency, contributes in a large measure toward making the ad-

ministration easy and the library successful.

This sharing of responsibility as an important element in the administration of a library leads directly to the next point—the obligation resting on all to create an attractive atmosphere in the library. The public library should be an enticing place, the librarian the friend of the people; it should be a fascinating place, and at the same time a reposeful place. The rush of the street and the whirr of the factory have no part within its walls, the bustle and chatter of the shop are tabooed and a brooding peace dominates. Promptness and courtesy, a friendly interest without curiosity, business care and scholarly thoughtfulness, each contribute toward securing such a desired atmosphere, while the general appearance of the room and the physical features of the building aid greatly in producing a pleasing or repelling sensation. A marked example of this effect of environment on the patrons is found in our university library. A few years ago the reading room was a bare place with uncomfortable seats and unsightly desks. The students talked and laughed, shuffled their feet and were anything but quiet and studious. Today the room is pleasing to the eye, with its cases of books and its pictures, the chairs are comfortable, and the tables handsome. It has taken some years to transform the place, but the effort has been justified. The buzz of conversation is no longer the dominant note. The patrons of the library are respectful and orderly and studious. The beauty of the circulating room of the Chicago public library contributes largely, I am confident, toward keeping the crowds which throng it quiet and orderly. But the attitude of the librarians, the personality of those who meet the public, is the strongest element in producing the desired atmosphere. We all know certain libraries which are attractive even though in a dingy room, because of the presiding personality.

The atmosphere of the library is directly responsible for the position which the library has in the community, and

the latter is the really vital element to be considered. The library exists for the welfare and advancement of the people, and when it fails to promote these, it fails in its highest function. The public library in the capital city of one of our large Western states has such a reputation that one of my library friends visiting in the city was urged not to visit the library. This building is well planned, but the treatment received by the public is scarcely even courteous. Take in contrast the public library in the capital city of another state. The rooms are very small and in the second story of a large building, but it is the place to go for the best books and for all sorts of friendly help and encouragement.

These are merely some of the old truths restated. Each librarian can extend the list from his own experience. The responsibilities of librarianship are threefold: Those to the community, those to the library, and those to himself. To the community he is responsible for making the library a vital force; to the library he is responsible for developing its resources and its efficiency; and to himself he is responsible for doing his best no matter how discouraging the circumstances.

Writings of Dr William T. Harris

Editor PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

Librarians will notice in the Report of the Commissioner of Education for 1907, 1:38-72, A list of the writings of William Torrey Harris, former commissioner of education. The bureau has copies of many of these for distribution. In writing for them correspondents may refer to the serial number used in the list.

W. D. JOHNSTON, Librarian.
Bureau of education.

Next A. L. A. Meeting

According to the report in the December number of the *A. L. A. Bulletin*, there seems to be some doubt about holding the next meeting in Louisville.

If that is not practical, why not go to Denver with the N. E. A. in July? Everything is ripe for a joint meeting of the two associations and the opportunity is too good to be overlooked. The opportunities offered for work and for vacation afterwards are most attractive.

WESTERN LIBRARIAN.

Illinois Libraries

Before the Illinois library association undertook to issue parts 3 and 4 of Miss Sharp's monograph, Illinois libraries, the University of Illinois had issued parts 1 and 2 in a series of its *University Studies*, and complimentary copies of this were sent to a large mailing list of libraries, especially those in Illinois.

When it becomes necessary to fill all the subscriptions for the remaining parts it has been found that there is a shortage of parts 1 and 2, so that complete sets cannot be supplied to all. This greatly embarrasses the committee distributing "Illinois libraries" and brings about a very complex situation.

Appeal is therefore made that all libraries, institutions and persons who have received parts 1 and 2 examine their files and duplicate collections and see whether they have more copies than they need. If extra copies of these two parts are found, the committee will be greatly obliged if they are returned at once to F. K. W. Drury, University of Illinois library, Urbana, Ill.

A Query

Since Annapolis and West Point are government schools, why does not the department of government printing issue the annals of these schools?

They are expensive for the small library to buy, yet the government expends annually large sums of money on publications much less useful.

I think the boys in the remote small towns would find much more inspiration and stimulation in these annals, than in the Triassic cephalopod of America or the status of Mesozoic floras in the United States.

LIBRARIAN.

Public Libraries

(MONTHLY)

Library Bureau	- - - - -	Publishers
M. E. AHERN	- - - - -	Editor
Subscription	- - - - -	\$1 a year
Five copies to one library	- - - - -	\$4 a year
Single number	- - - - -	20 cents
Foreign subscriptions	- - - - -	\$1.35 a year

Entered as second-class matter May 17, 1896, at the Post-office at Chicago, Ill., under act of March 3, 1879.

Public Libraries does not appear in August and September and 10 numbers constitute a volume.

By the rules of the banks of Chicago an exchange charge of 10 cents is made on all out-of-town checks for \$10 and under. In remitting subscriptions, therefore, checks on New York or Chicago banks or post-office money orders should be sent.

The year that has gone—The year 1908 in library work in the United States was not remarkable for any particular achievement. Thousands of libraries pursued the even tenor of their way in trying to enrich "human life in the entire community by bringing to all the people the books that belong to them." In library addresses and in library literature generally, opinion leans toward emphasizing literature itself for librarians, a natural result from the continued emphasis which has long been given to library technique.

The entrance into the library field as active workers of those who had achieved a place for themselves in formal educational work, as instanced by Mr Locke, of the Public Library, Toronto, is not only a distinct addition to library extension, but a matter of congratulation that such men have seen the possibilities in library work that make it attractive to them.

The reorganization of the library department of the Bureau of education which has been in progress, is addressing itself favorably to those who are interested in educational literature and gives reason to hope that when the work undertaken by Librarian Johnston is accomplished, we will have something more of rational coöperation between libraries and formal educational institutions. The programs of the National education association at Cleveland and

of recent New York state library meetings, give evidence of a greater deepening of comprehension of the relation between these two forces than has been manifest before. It is to be regretted that the A. L. A. has offered no contribution in 1908 on this subject.

Several whose names have long been on the roll of library activities were removed by death during the year. Thomas Greenwood of England, Dr Bain of Toronto, Mr Bardwell of Brooklyn, Mr Gauss of Chicago, Miss Hager of Burlington, Vt., and Dr Spoford of Washington, D. C., departed after years of valuable service. The latter was one of the founders of the A. L. A. present at the organization in 1876, and Dr Putnam added to his own renown by the beautiful tribute paid to the life and character of Dr Spoford in *The Independent* of November 19, 1908. The beautiful life of Miss Hager, before referred to in PUBLIC LIBRARIES (13:286), worn out in personal service, furnishes an inspiration for many library workers, today, far removed from the centers of library activities.

The passing out of library work of Mr Green of Worcester, which is scheduled for the beginning of 1909, will remove from active service another who has counted for much in the development of the library movement in the United States, particularly in the matter of coöperation between libraries and schools.

It is well that in the multitude of opportunities that lie before librarians everywhere, they do not forget the splendid work done by the librarians of the last third of a century, who with great difficulty pointed the way and cleared the path for much that is accomplished easily today.

The opening of a music room in the Evanston, Ill., public library is the beginning of an allied work that will be watched with interest as to its future development.

State supervision of library extension has grown in various localities, notably

in Alabama, New Jersey and North Dakota. Illinois still remains in the list of delinquents in this respect.

The subject of pensions for those who have made library service their lifework, received serious consideration for the first time, though without any definite results, but a beginning, at least, may be said to have been made.

The last analysis of the unsettled state of mind in regard to the continuation of the A. L. I. would be interesting if the integral parts were set out.

The review of the year's events in library matters ought to include reference to the futile attempts anent the development of the active A. L. A. headquarters, but so many elements enter in, and the future course and the final result being in doubt, any further discussion of it at this time would seem unnecessary.

International library spirit—The libraries committee of the city of Manchester, England, which made a visit to the United States and Canada last year for the purpose of examining library facilities, on their return prepared an elaborate report of the visit, which has just been issued by the Corporation of Manchester. Nothing better in the way of such a report has appeared for a long time, and in fact there is nothing obtainable in print today which contains so definite a report on the large libraries visited in America.

The spirit of the investigators is worthy of notice for all who are interested in the development of library work. The visitors came to find out what in the American system of public libraries was working successfully. They seem to have come with an eye singled to that purpose. It cannot be claimed for a moment that they saw nothing to be criticized. They undoubtedly saw much, because every fair-minded person who knows the situation is aware that there is much that could be bettered. But this committee had come to find out the good things. They evidently did not spend their time and thought on the things that are not worth while, a spirit which deserves the strongest commendation.

Doubtless, if it should occur to any of the working administration to adapt one or another form or method of library construction or administration which the committee saw with disapproval in America, it will not be impossible in time to show good reason for avoiding the same. Nor is it probable that they could not do so because of the omission of such criticism in the published report.

The report as a piece of good will and courtesy is one which the American librarians will do well to keep in mind for a long time to come.

The present spirit in A. L. A.—Judging entirely by the events of the past few years in the life of the national organization, the future usefulness of that body offers something of a problem. There has been evidence of a drift away from the unselfish professional ideals which were the products of the spirit of those who made the A. L. A. what it undoubtedly was but a while ago, a center of ennobling influence for all who came within its borders. Perhaps the fact that material prosperity has brought its accompanying problems which must be met, has been allowed to overcome that indefinable something we called the "library spirit" of the A. L. A. What is it that has gone from the conduct of A. L. A. affairs with the presence of Foster, Whitney, Fletcher, Dana, Crunden, Hosmer, Lane, to name a few and not to mention "the founders of the faith," nor others of international fame, who, though active in special lines, are absent where once they were the factors that counted for progress in the problem of uplift in the meetings of the A. L. A.? There was something awhile ago in A. L. A. meetings that is lacking today in the opinion of many, some of whom have written strongly of their loss with a plea for a return.

Whoever knows of the loss and knows, too, what it is and how it may be restored, is "under bonds to his profession" to help bring again that which "shall preserve the unity, the public-spiritedness and the delight in working together for a common, noble end."

Library Reading Course

The following questions have been prepared for those who wish to receive credit for the work they have done in professional reading during the past year. The matter of receiving credit for the work locally will be presented at the meeting of the League of library commissions at its Chicago meeting, 1909.

Answers to the following questions should be sent to M. E. Ahern, care of PUBLIC LIBRARIES, Chicago, not later than April 1, 1909.

From the reading of 1908

1) Name three notable dates in library development and tell why chosen.

2) Sum up in a few lines the idea of "Man more than machinery."

How far were you able to follow Mr Larned's suggestions and tell the circumstances attending?

3) Give quotations from Emerson and Lowell concerning libraries.

4) How much of Dr Moulton's counsel did you adopt? With what result?

Comment from your own observation on Mr Koopman's illustration of the "daily distraction."

5) Give six "don'ts" on book selection, supporting each by authority.

Did you take any of Miss Hewins' proposed "excursions into the by-paths of literature"? Discuss briefly Mr Dana's idea of "the library for the public."

6) How far did you agree with Winchester's idea of what is literature?

7) What relation does your library bear to Library of Congress? What suggestion would you offer on the change of name and governance of the latter?

8) Which form of art—architecture, sculpture, painting—creates a feeling of "relation" in you? Which of Miss Beckley's estimates of books on art appealed to you? Why?

9) Give an example of the various forms of state supervision of library extension. Name the states having none.

10) What book on Dr Vincent's list

on Sociology have you read? Give an estimate of it in a few lines.

Give 20 names connected with the development of library work and tell the field of work of each.

Suggestions in regard to the Library reading course for 1909 will be welcome. Improvement, variation, or extension may appeal to many, and if so, they are invited to make suggestions.

The Small Library and Art

To take one's public to the various galleries and museums of the large cities is quite impossible, but to bring a breath of the fine things of the city to one's public through the instrumentality of the library is within the reach of every librarian. As an example of what may be done for a community having no art collections, the Mankato (Minn.) public library takes rank with many larger institutions of its kind.

It has been the aim of this library to have during each year a series of exhibits representing the best things in art. This year the "American idea" prevails.

During the entire month of October a beautiful collection of American pottery was displayed—Mexican and Indian wares—in contrast with such productions of the American *ficile* art as the Grueby, Faience, Rookwood, Newcomb, Moravian, Teco, Hampshire, Markham, Pauline, Dedham, Van Briggles, and ware from the Handicap Guild of Minneapolis.

Talks were given on American pottery, illustrated by the various kinds of ware, and processes of pottery-making, illustrated by actual work in the clay. This month of library activities is marked by a splendid collection of etchings by 21 American artists, who rank high; Whistler, Pennell, McLaughlin, among the foremost. The interest of this collection will be further enhanced by a talk on Etching and etchers. December will find a large collection of Copley prints, reproducing American masterpieces of painting and sculpture, and a talk is to be given on Art in America.

MAUD VAN BUREN.

Some French Libraries

John Cotton Dana, Newark, N. J.

From Tours, with 60,000 inhabitants, I went to Carcassonne, with 30,000. Here I did not succeed in my several efforts to get inside the library, whose 50,000 v. are housed in the Museum building. The uninviting entrance hall, stone stairs, dim light and depressing chill of Tours are all found at Carcassonne. At the latter place this entrance hall below is made the more forbidding by a collection of Roman and medieval objects—columns, busts, broken statues and the like—seemingly heaped in a desultory way behind a rough wooden fence and looking most neglected. Here as in many other old cities time has furnished the local museum with treasures which good judgment says should be preserved, while the public income forbids their receiving proper care. The result would be quite disheartening did not the mere fact that these things are kept from destruction, justify any apparent neglect of them. Of course, they are not in fact neglected. They simply lack the attractive installation which only money could secure for them.

I failed to get into the library at Carcassonne because on my first visit I reached there a few minutes after 5, the closing hour, and on my second I was there a few minutes after 12, another closing hour. In France from 12 to 2 or 2:30 is sacred to dinner; and when I say sacred I mean it. A Paris cabby has been known to refuse a fare because his dinner was waiting for him! From 5 to 7 is equally sacred to a cigarette and a drink under an awning on the sidewalk—the universal ceremony preceding the evening meal. Most public institutions, including libraries, close during these periods of repose, these hours which are not hours. No impatient public was clamoring for admission when I was twice late at the Carcassonne library. The close supervision of its treasures, and it has many, was illustrated by the fact that even the

janitress had no key to the library rooms. At any rate, she said she had none, and even the sight of a fee did not move her to let me in.

If I missed what seemed not a very good thing at Carcassonne, I made up for it by what I saw at Nîmes. I shall always believe that all the library people I did not see in France are trying to be the equals of Victor Jeannin, the conservateur of the library at Nîmes.

He has his inner sanctuary; but is easily found, and in five minutes after meeting him you understand how he has been able to make his reading room so attractive as to draw many to it and how—in spite of the delightful burden of 90,000 v., with many precious manuscripts to look after and keep clean and in order—he has succeeded in getting money enough to buy many recent books, to take nearly 100 current journals, to get many gifts and also to persuade his city to permit him to lend books under proper restrictions to the young as well as to the old.

The entrance is not prepossessing. The old buildings in which these libraries are housed do not lend themselves readily to the making of cheerful entrances. I went into the dark and narrow hall below and marched up the crooked, stuffy stairs with the feeling that here was another of the institutions that time and popular education are going to renovate. But the reading room is well lighted and cheerful. It seats about 50, and while I was there more than that number sat and read or came for books. The printed catalog runs to seven volumes, and still is far runs to seven volumes, and still is far behind the accessions and in the older volumes sadly needs revision. But it should be said that here as in many other libraries the character and age of the books and the presence of large groups of volumes, given on condition that they be kept together, make the catalog question a most difficult one.

Books are lent for one month, two to any one borrower, and borrowers

need not be over 13 or 14 years old. In other rooms and on the floors above the order and cleanliness are beyond reproach. One enormous room has windows opening to the east and the west. Great ranges of books run down its length in cases 12 feet high, with generous aisles between. The afternoon sun was pouring in and warmed up the yellow vellum and the ancient brown leathers of these thousands of volumes, nearly all of which date from the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. I never expect again to see so well illustrated the possibilities of color that lie in old books. The beauty of the room came from the rich and noble books only, for the cases were of the simplest and the walls and ceiling were perfectly plain and bare. The guide-book should set a star, for the stranger's benefit, against a note referring to a walk through the aisles of the old books of the Municipal library of Nîmes with the afternoon light upon them.

At Nice I spent a few moments in taking a kodak of the library's front door, and when I climbed the stairs to the entrance found the librarian and all of his staff had anticipated their hours of noon-day repose by about 10 minutes and had left and taken the key! I knew they had taken the key because the janitor told me so. The janitor is a tailor. His shop is a little room cut off one end of the hall below by a partition of glass. He pleasantly unites the care of books with the mending and pressing of clothes. Here is Carlyle's Sartor, ready to reclothe the body when his books have newly clad the mind.

The next day I came in time, and climbing again the stone stairs, which continue their cool and winding way up through five high stories, I stopped at the first floor and entered the library.

Nice is an English colony, with a southern French city attached. If that puts the case too strongly for the English it is not too much to say that they have greatly modernized the city in

every respect. Although they have lending libraries of their own which they chiefly patronize, the municipal institution has probably been liberalized through their influence. Perhaps they also awoke the feeling which led to placing large signs in the hall and in the library itself asking visitors to wipe their feet and not to spit on the floor, the only signs of the kind I saw in French libraries. Here the books are in a series of rooms, and are ranged along the walls behind doors of wire netting. In one room—and this is the only room of the kind I anywhere noted—are several thousand books on open shelves. They are reference books, at least in part, and look very convenient and homelike. Unfortunately large signs tell visitors that they cannot take down books without permission from the attendant. This is the reading room, with seats for 50 persons. Four readers were there at the time of my visit, 11:30 a. m. In this room was also a large sign saying that books are sometimes mutilated by readers and that this is a serious matter making offenders liable to punishment. Our Peoria friend, who feeds his clientele on the baled hay of a catalog instead of letting them through the bars into the green pastures of their books, perhaps can tell the librarian at Nice how to check this mutilation.

This library has 60,000 v., with many early printed books and many manuscripts. Like the others that I saw, many of its books came from religious institutions which have been taken over by the state. About 50 current journals are received. Permission to take books home is granted to very few.

When I asked if I might see certain editions of Horace the attendant told me that as the sacred hour of 12 was only 15 minutes away, the hour when all free men rest and eat, he could show me only two or three. Perhaps this sanctification of eating is well; certainly it is well if it has helped to make pos-

sible the development of the art of cooking in France.

I have seen few libraries, as my notes above show; but perhaps enough to give a fairly accurate impression of the state of the library art in this country. Popular education is not understood as we understand it. The select few get the best of training, and most learn to read. Many books and journals are published. These cost very little and are offered for sale at every news-stand; the newspaper is in everyone's hand; museums, art galleries, science collections, beautiful specimens of architecture, painting, sculpture and applied art, these are found everywhere, and perhaps there is no occasion for the development here of an institution for general delectation and enlightenment such as the public library of America is coming to be. I have seen little of France, but that little has been sufficient to strengthen the impression which I had gained, like everyone else, from casual reading, that here is the country of intellectual alertness. It has fed the printing press and eaten of its products in turn for several centuries. The book shop and the news-stand are universal. The public library is today a storehouse, and as a distributor of books seems not to be greatly needed.

Library Notes

Melvil Dewey, Lake Placid, N. Y.

025.1. Combining administrative departments—Between small libraries, where there is only one librarian to do all the work, and large ones where there can be a competent head for each administrative department, the question always arises of the best combinations in getting the work of these nine departments divided among available workers. Cataloging and classification naturally go together like reference work and bibliography. The accession department is a great cornerstone and must have a competent head. The work that combines most

naturally with it is buying fittings and supplies. The accession head must be an expert on buying books, pictures, serials and material for increasing the library. He needs not only to know books but to be a good business man, and can probably take on the other buying more easily than any of the other heads. Much depends on personal experience of staff members and also on arrangement of building. Binding and repair work are easily added to the accession department which has charge of serials and pamphlets that require binding. If, as is usual, the loan department is carried on side by side with the reference work, the reference librarian may readily supervise it till it grows large enough for its own head. The shelf department also goes more readily with accession than with catalog or reference departments. The obvious great divisions needing heads are the combined catalog and classification departments which have to do with making books available; the combined reference and loan, which has to do with readers, and the general executive department, which would include accession, binding, repair, shelf, building and what might be called the business departments. If a fourth head can be afforded, the accession department would have the strongest claim, probably taking binding with it. The shelf would also go most naturally with the accession work, while the building clearly belongs in the general executive field.

0292. Rubber stamps.—These are invaluable labor savers if kept in racks or on hooks, plainly labeled so that the hand will get or replace mechanically. Many people leave them scattered about the desk or in drawers so that the time taken in finding the right one, being sure that it is not bottom side up, inking and using it is considerably more than to use a pen. It has the advantage of a distinct color and greater legibility, but the main purpose of printing by a single motion is to save time. The Midget

self-inking stamp at $\frac{1}{4}$ the cost of the old self-inkers should replace the common pad stamp, which dries quickly and takes double time. It may be useful for some purposes, but for ordinary desk work the self-inker, which does the whole work with one motion instead of two, should be used. Sometimes it is worth while to use a stamp for a single mark which could be made in a quarter the time of the pen, because it gives a clean cut, distinctive symbol and a distinctive color.

090. Photographic facsimiles.—The invention of printing made it possible to send the book to the reader and revolutionized education and culture. The old student walked perhaps a thousand miles to get access to some volume which he can now get in print for the cost of a meal. The invention of modern photography has done a similar work for the scholars, who to the present time often travel to the other side of the world to get access to books which exist only in a single copy. The photograph at trifling cost gives something even better than the original to use, because it shows all that is there and allows of much freer handling. A statement of the case is enough to prove its merits. We have only to decide the best way to accomplish results. Manuscripts for which there is a great demand have been republished. Those needed are for limited constituencies, and will not be profitable to ordinary publishers. They can be duplicated and distributed among libraries needing them only on the same plan adopted for bibliographic work. The field is particularly fitted to the A. L. A. publishing board, which is the natural clearing house for work of this kind. This board, better than anyone else, ought to organize coöperation by securing subscriptions from libraries needing such photographic facsimiles.

The separate subscriptions need not be large and the funds so collected and used would supply a valuable source of helpfulness for many libraries and other educational organizations.

Laws of Book Borrowing

A popular version of certain curious laws of book borrowing, originally found in a copy of the *Lettres Fanatiques*, 1739, now in the British museum, are given below. The complete text in ancient law Latin was published in *The Athenæum* of Dec. 23, 1893. Prescribed some century and a half ago by one Francis Vargas, marquis of Macciucca, to frequenters of his library, the book lover of any age will find little to cavil at in their simple provisions, which run as follows:

- 1) Do not steal the book.
- 2) Do not cut or stab it.
- 3) For heaven's sake draw no lines about it, within or without.
- 4) Do not fold, crumple or wrinkle the leaves.
- 5) Nor scribble on the margins.
- 6) All the ink required is already on the pages; do not defile them with more.
- 7) Let your book marker be of perfectly clean paper.
- 8) The volume is not to be lent to anyone else on any consideration.
- 9) Keep mouse, worm, moth and fly away from it.
- 10) Let no oil, fire, dust or filth come near it.
- 11) In a word, use the book, don't abuse it.
- 12) Read and make what extracts you please, but—
- 13) When read don't keep it an unreasonable time.
- 14) See that the binding and cover are as they were when you received them.
- 15) Do this, and however unknown, you shall be entered in the catalog of my friends. Omit it, and however well known, your name shall be erased.

These rules, the marquis adds, he imposed on himself as well as on others—a self-denying ordinance, some will say—in regard to which the author may well reserve to himself exclusive rights over margins and fly-leaves.—*Fortnightly Review*.

American Library Institute**The New York meetings**

The second meeting of the American library institute was held at Park Avenue hotel, New York city, December 10-11. There were three sessions and 32 members registered as follows: Edwin H. Anderson, Dr John S. Billings, Arthur E. Bostwick, Richard R. Bowker, Dr J. H. Canfield, Henry J. Carr, William P. Cutter, John Cotton Dana, Melvil Dewey, William R. Eastman, George S. Godard, Charles H. Gould, Caroline M. Hewins, Frank P. Hill, Theresa Hitchler, George Iles, Harry L. Koopman, William C. Kimball, Theodore W. Koch, Thomas L. Montgomery, William T. Peoples, Dr Ernest C. Richardson, Mary E. Robbins, Charles C. Soule, Dr Bernard C. Steiner, John Thomson, Horace G. Wadlin, Hiller C. Wellman, Beatrice Winsor, J. I. Wyer, jr, and William F. Yust.

An informal but very enjoyable dinner on Thursday evening brought 22 members together.

There was a prolonged consideration of that part of the revised constitution of the A. L. A. creating a council. A general feeling was expressed that the function of the proposed council was not thoroughly deliberative and that the business responsibilities ought to be transferred to the executive board. A large number expressed themselves as believing that there should be but one deliberative body of librarians and that that body should be a combination of the self-perpetuating and the elective plan in order to give all members representation by their own direct votes. There was a general acceptance of the principle of electing part of the membership of the council by direct vote of members of the A. L. A.

The following statement of functions and methods of work of the proposed council was considered satisfactory:

The council shall be known as the American Library Council and shall have for its object the consideration and discussion of library questions of pub-

lic and professional interest; the proposal to the executive board, from time to time, of suitable subjects for extended investigation and research, and the recommendation of the amount of appropriations that should be made for such purposes; the appointment and general supervision of such special committees of investigation and research as may be provided for and authorized by the executive board; the consideration, discussion and recommendation to the executive board for disposition, of all reports of such special committees of research as may have been appointed on its recommendation or by its authority, and the annual preparation and presentation to the association at its annual convention, of a report on library progress during the past year, and in other ways shall use its best efforts to further the objects of the association and to promote the cause of public libraries in general.

The executive board of the A. L. I. was instructed by vote to seek conference with the committee on revision of the A. L. A. constitution and to bring about, if possible, such a revision of section 14 in the proposed constitution as will create a purely deliberative body.

There was a prolonged discussion on the relations between public libraries and public schools. There was a general feeling expressed that a definite campaign of public education upon this point must be undertaken through the A. L. A. and N. E. A. and by coöperation whenever possible. The chief object sought should be definite instruction in the use of books to be given high school pupils, normal school pupils and first year college men. Boards of education and directors of public libraries should be brought closer together, to act together as far as possible, and to have at least one common member. There was a general expression that librarians have already gone further in this matter than teachers have gone. School authorities do not understand the work of libraries and, as a rule, do not be-

lieve such work to be particularly valuable. This is doubtless due to the exaggerated idea of the general public that the chief work of libraries is circulating fiction, and cheap fiction at that. Librarians should use definite efforts to overcome this prejudice.

In the business transaction of the meeting the secretary was instructed to place before the members for their votes the names of Thomas L. Montgomery of Pennsylvania and William T. Peoples of New York, to succeed Melvil Dewey and Frederick M. Crunden as members of the executive board, and to issue a call for votes of members to fill six vacancies expiring by limit.

Co-operation of A. L. A. and N. E. A.

A meeting of committees on coöperation, N. E. A. and A. L. A., was held immediately at close of last session of the institute. The chairman, Mr Gaillard, was asked to secure a place and a representative for A. L. A. at a general session of N. E. A. at Denver next summer, and to secure from the secretary of A. L. A. an invitation to N. E. A. for like representation at one of the general sessions of next meeting of A. L. A. Also to secure places for papers on library work at one or more section meetings of N. E. A., Denver. It was also determined to prepare each year for each meeting of the great national organizations a report on Progress during the year in relations of public schools and public libraries, the same to be published in the *Proceedings* of each organization.

The Things That Win

To some men to live successfully means to acquire money. To other men it means to acquire friends. Persons with no very clear concept of life are likely to acquire the one at the expense of the other. The world is full of "captains of industry," for whom, living, men have no love, and for whom, dead, the world will shed no tears.

They have achieved the success of dollars and cents; but they have been too busy to be kind and too self-centered to be thoughtful. They have won that which to them seems most desirable; but, at the last, they will wish that they could feel sure that there were other men who spoke well of them in their absence. True, they are enjoying that kind of respect and esteem that money always commands; but if they are men of intelligence they will be searching in every compliment for spurious coin.

There have been other men who have made the mistake of attempting to acquire friends at the expense of money. They have seen how happy are men who have friends, and they have had the idea that friendship is a thing to be bought like a commodity. They have sacrificed their business to be "a good fellow"; but the "friends" they have thus acquired have deserted them at the critical hour or ignored them in the moment of urgent need, when friendship would count.

And then there are those other men who achieve real success, who acquire both money and friends—neither at the expense of the other. They have been industrious enough to be successful and yet they have taken time to be something besides money-chasers. They have been genial not merely to those from whom they expected favors; they have given a smile and a handshake now and then to those who they knew could give them no gold in return. It is because it has gone out to the rich and poor alike, to the struggling and the successful, without distinction, that their every word of cheer has borne the stamp of sincere friendliness and genuineness.

Such men, while themselves engaged in the pursuit of wealth, see something in life besides the acquirement of money. They often wonder how many millions of dollars a man would have to amass to make him as great as the man who paints a picture, composes a song, writes a poem, starts an uplift or saves a soul.—*The Lumberman.*

Interesting Things in Print

A book list on sculpture has been issued by the Cincinnati museum library.

The New York state library has issued a second edition of Selected national bibliographies, first printed in May, 1900.

The International committee of the Y. M. C. A. recently purchased 500 copies of the "Quitter" leaflet issued by the Grand Rapids (Mich.) library for use in their educational work.

The Year book of the State normal school of Geneseo, N. Y., '08-'09, contains a very valuable outline on the course of study in library methods given by Ida M. Mendenhall, librarian of the school.

A little pamphlet setting out the relations of the Indianapolis public library to the Indianapolis schools, public and private, has been issued by the former institution. It is full of suggestions and sets out effective plans of work.

A picture list, compiled by a committee of the California library association, on Pictures for libraries, under the direction of Anna McC. Beckley, has been issued by the association as number nine of its publications. The little pamphlet of 82 pages presents an annotated list of 500 well-known pictures, with the thought of being helpful to libraries that desire to make a picture collection, with the fundamental idea that "the image is better than the fact." The pamphlet will be for sale by Miss Beckley of the Los Angeles public library.

The Newark free public library has reprinted the address on the use of books delivered by Dr David Felmley, president of Illinois state normal university, at the annual meeting of the National educational association at Cleveland. It has done it in order to bring to the attention of Newark teachers this very effective statement of the fact that the teacher rightly equipped is the surest guide for children to good reading and to skill in using books and a library. The free public library itself has made a

beginning toward giving the teachers the necessary knowledge of books and a library by its course of 12 lessons to the junior class of the city normal and training school. This pamphlet has been made a part of the required reading of the course. It has been sent also to teachers who have school-room libraries or who have otherwise shown interest in the work of the school department.

An interesting story has been received concerning Helen Keller's "Optimism." Last year a patient in the Bloomingdale asylum for the insane, in Massachusetts, read "Optimism" in one of her sane moments. She conceived the idea of starting an optimist club in the asylum among her unfortunate associates, and this club has had a remarkable and successful history, although the founder has left the institution. One of the nurses says that the club has completely changed the character of the ward, and its influence for sanity and health still continues.

The clown of the newspaper establishment, as the Boston *Herald* fittingly denominates the motley-clad comic supplement to the Sunday issue, has been discontinued by that leading New England journal; and it is to be hoped that its lead will have a numerous following. Public protest is not ineffectual in such matters; and as soon as the makers of Sunday newspapers are convinced that the people are weary of this particular form of ugliness and inanity, they will vie with one another in their promptness to suppress it. We heartily agree with the *Herald* when it says that "comic supplements have ceased to be comic. They have become as vulgar in design as they are tawdry in color. There is no longer any semblance of art in them, and if there are any ideals they are low and descending lower." In the not too distant future it is to be hoped that the art of illustrating in color will become truly a fine art, and that the possessor of even a nickel may purchase some of its benefits; but until then, let the Sunday newspaper put its paint pot away and resume the sober garb of an earlier, more self-respecting age.—*The Dial*.

Library Schools

Drexel institute

The annual reception of the Philadelphia members of the Drexel institute library school association to the students of the new class was held November 21 at the institute. The entertainment consisted of a vaudeville show, which afforded much amusement. The performers were library school graduates and members of the library staff.

Graduate notes

Zelia M. Rank, class of 1908, has been appointed assistant cataloger in the St Louis public library.

Sarah C. N. Bogle, class of 1904, has been made branch librarian of the Ozone branch, Queensborough public library, Long Island.

Miss M. B. Wharton, class of 1902, has been appointed assistant librarian, Aguilar branch, New York public library.

Mary P. Farr, class of 1895, will, on January 1, begin her duties as library organizer for the Maryland library commission. The appointment is a temporary one.

Mary L. Doig, class of 1908, has been appointed assistant in the John Crerar library.

University of Illinois

Shortly before the Thanksgiving vacation the students and faculty of the Illinois library school had the pleasure of a visit from Nellie M. Parham, class of 1899. In the course of a most enjoyable address to the students Miss Parham referred to many student experiences, pleasant and otherwise, which were relished by those who heard them. Since her graduation, Miss Parham has been librarian of the Withers free library at Bloomington, Ill., and from a successful experience of a number of years in administering a live public library she was able to give a talk at once practical and inspiring.

It is the policy of the school to invite visits from active public librarians,

and in continuance of that policy a visit from Purd B. Wright of the St Joseph (Mo.) public library is one of the pleasures in store for the students directly after the Christmas vacation.

Personal

Elizabeth Forrest, 1906, is on sick leave, her place at the reference desk at the University of Illinois being supplied at present by Ola M. Wyeth, also of the class of 1906.

Cards have just been received announcing the marriage on Jan. 2, 1909, of Emily L. Nichols, class of 1904, to Merle J. Trees, also a graduate of the University of Illinois. Miss Nichols' resignation from Armour institute library staff went into effect on December 1, her place being filled by Ida Lange, 1908.

Elizabeth T. Stout, 1908, and Florence L. Brundage, ex 1909, are cataloging a collection of works on commerce recently purchased for the School of commerce of the University of Illinois.

Grace MacMahon, 1908, has been appointed to the staff of the John Crerar library.

Clara Gridley, 1908, has been appointed to a position in the order department of the University of Illinois library.

Edith Spray, 1907, has resigned her position as loan assistant. Miss Spray has announced her engagement to Fred Sawyer, U. of I., 1905, the marriage to occur in January. The women members of the University of Illinois library staff gave Miss Spray a shower of miscellaneous useful articles on December 19.

Wiebe White, ex-1909, is assisting in the library at Walla Walla, Wash.

The sympathy of the members of the school has been recently called forth by the bereavement of one of its members, J. S. Cleavinger, class of 1910, whose father has recently died.

FRANCES SIMPSON.

New York state library

Last year all librarians and assistants who desired to attend the special course in children's work were permitted to do so as special students. This opportunity will be given again this year. The course in Children's work, which is a part of the regular course of the school, will consist of ten lectures by E. H. Anderson, assistant director of the New York public library, Clara W. Hunt, of the Brooklyn public library, and Frances J. Olcott, director of the Carnegie library (Pittsburgh) training school for children's librarians. Librarians and assistants in the libraries of New York state will be admitted to the course free of charge; those outside the state may attend on payment of \$5 for all the lectures of the special course, which will cover 10 or 12 days, and will probably be given some time in March. Definite dates and other details will be announced later or may be secured by addressing the registrar of the school.

Thursday, November 6, during the meeting of the Ohio library association at Cincinnati, the former students of the school now in the various libraries of Cincinnati gave a luncheon to the former students of the school in other Ohio libraries. There were present: Misses McKee '05, Metz '07, Mitchell '05, Morse '97, Whittlesey '03, Mr Matthews '06, Faith Smith '00, of the Pittsburgh Carnegie library, and the hostesses, Misses Boswell '06, Dresser '06, Laura Smith '99, Stimson '02 and Wright '07.

Dr James H. Canfield, librarian of Columbia university, delivered two lectures to the school, Friday, December 4. His subjects were Columbia university library and The public library in its relation to education.

Syracuse university

Owing to the increase in the number of students this year Caroline Wandell, B. L. S., gave up her work as chief cataloger of the University library to teach cataloging, and Fannie

E. Jones, B. L. S., Illinois, 1901, has been engaged as an extra teacher. She will begin her work February 1 at the opening of the new semester.

A library seminar and a course in advanced reference have been established. A course of lectures on subject bibliography by specialists was begun on November 5. Dr C. J. Kullmer gave the opening lecture on the German language and literature. This was supplemented on December 3. The other lectures in the course have been: Dr C. C. Bushnell on the Classics, Dr A. S. Patterson on the French language and literature and Dr A. C. Flick on European history.

Notes of class of 1908

Carrie Potter and Lillian Gilbert have positions in the Syracuse university library; Mae Lynn in the New York university library; Louise Hedges in the Mercantile library, New York; Lucy Darrow, Ina Dounce, Inez Crandle and Mary Parkhurst in the New York public library. Etta Matthews is organizing and cataloging the school and village libraries of St Johnsville, N. Y. M. J. SIBLEY, Director.

Wisconsin

The important event of the opening weeks of the school year was the gift of Judge J. M. Pereles of Milwaukee, chairman of the Wisconsin library commission, of two scholarships of \$100 each, in honor of his wife, to be known as the Jennie W. Pereles scholarships.

The program of lectures, practice work, and apprentice hours during the fall months has followed with only slight modifications the plan that has been in the making during the opening years of the school. The lectures are given in the morning in sixty-minute periods, beginning at 8:30, the remainder of the day being devoted to study and practice work. Students that are in university or legislative reference classes as well as those of the library school have lectures both at the university and the library school, or at the Legislative reference library in the Capitol.

The school is fortunate in its lecturers from other libraries and from the University of Wisconsin. Mrs. Elmendorf of the Buffalo public library visited the school for two days, October 27-28, and gave a most helpful and inspiring address on "Things that matter," with timely suggestions on the preserving of library ideals in the midst of the necessary technical and mechanical work of the school year. On the following day Mrs. Elmendorf talked to the school informally on Book elimination, touching upon children's literature and the buying of books.

Maud R. Macpherson, librarian of the Watertown (Wis.) public library, has given the instruction in library handwriting most successfully. Dr. Thwaites, secretary of the Wisconsin historical society, has given two lectures, "How history is written" and "Local history material." Dr. F. J. Turner and Prof. D. C. Munro of the University of Wisconsin have each lectured on evaluated lists of books for American and European history, their respective specialties.

On November 21 the class of 1909 completed its organization, electing officers as follows:

President, Julia A. Robinson, Dubuque, Iowa; vice-president, Winnie Bucklin, Brodhead, Wis.; secretary, Mary E. Watkins, Edmund, Wis.; treasurer, Harriet Bixby, Valparaiso, Ind.

A reception to students, faculty, and friends of the school was given by the preceptor of the library school in October, in the nature of a welcome to the new students and to Miss Bascom, who had just come from the New York State library to become editor of the *A. L. A. Booklist*, and a farewell to Miss Elliott, who was leaving for her work in Pratt institute.

Miss Hazeltine also gave an informal tea during Mrs. Elmendorf's visit, giving faculty and friends an opportunity of meeting Mrs. Elmendorf.

The students enjoyed the annual

Hallowe'en frolic, using the halls and lecture room of the library school for games, fortune telling, and shadow pictures. The rooms were prettily decorated and a unique candlelight procession through the dark rooms of the public library on the first floor of the building added a new feature to the evening's entertainment.

Miss Carpenter and Mrs. Sawyer were at home to the students and faculty on Friday evening, November 20, just before the short course students finished their term of eight weeks. Mrs. Moore gave a reading from the "Servant in the house," and an interpretation of the play, which was very much enjoyed by her listeners.

Library Handicraft

Provided that an extension is built to the main book stack, which will give us bench room, we shall be prepared to take a small class in library handicraft.

This class will be limited to the bench capacity of the room, and the work will be adapted to the ability of the class. It is necessary to explain that library handicraft is a name first applied to this work about 12 years ago and retained because it distinguished it from other handicraft now so popular in house furnishings. So far as we know it had its library origin in Colorado.

It should be noted that this is not a course in library science. It is a handicraft course with a tendency toward decorative design and bibliography. A course of reading will be assigned and examinations will include the reading.

1) Bench Work—Bookbinding, Pamphlet cases. Portfolios and miscellaneous pieces.

2) Drawing Boards—Designing in line and color. Book plates. Book covers, title pages, illumination and decoration of text, individual assignments.

3) Lectures—Printing art, book printing, book history, special phases of book production.—Library report of State agricultural college of Colorado.

The Librarian in the High School*

The high school library should, co-operating with the teacher, give the pupil a broader view and deeper interest in the subjects studied, by supplementing class-room work with books and illustrative material and should also create a love of reading and develop a library habit which shall lead him to the best use of the public library.

As a preparation for this work the high school librarian should become perfectly familiar with the course of study, should know the special subjects taught by each teacher and the use each might make of the library. She must study the text-books used and be sure that her library or the public library contains as many as possible of the authorities referred to in the text-books. Let her get the teacher's point of view, and read what had been written about school libraries in educational periodicals and books, let her also read not only about the high school library but about the aims and problems of high school work as a whole.

She can put her technical training to good use in making the resources of her library available and then by means of lists, bulletins, etc., in making these resources known. Make lists of books and pictures that the individual teachers may have at their desks. The library resources in biology, chemistry and physics should be posted in the special laboratories. Bulletins of additions should be posted promptly on the teachers' bulletin board and new books left for a few days on a special table for inspection. A library reception to the entering class is one means of introducing them to the library, and instruction in the use of the catalog and reference books should be given to each entering class, and practical work done by each pupil under direction. Systematic instruction extending over the four years

of the course is given in some high schools.

As a means of general culture the library can do much. An interest in current events may be awakened by the posting of a daily bulletin, which can be edited by the junior students in turn under the direction of the librarian.

An interest directed toward the pictures hung in class room and corridor by means of attractive labels and references may be made the beginning of an art education.

Very important is it to encourage the use of the public library. Send the pupils there often to finish work begun in the school library. Post lists of good books for general reading and for recreation to be found in the public library not in the school library. See that each child has a card for the public library.

But not only can the librarian train the pupils in the use of the public library, but she can do much to create an interest in books as books, good editions, attractive bindings and to foster a desire to own certain books for themselves. Christmas exhibitions of good books to own with prices and publishers have been found, thanks to the coöperation of the teachers, to have done much to stimulate this desire.

L. B. Marks, of the New York illuminating and engineering society, has issued in pamphlet form an address recently delivered before that society, on the principles of illuminating suited to public libraries. Mr Marks' plan of lighting has been adopted for the Carnegie branches of the New York public library. The pamphlet is full of illustrations showing the designs of the lighting apparatus and giving results when applied for reading tables, book stacks and general lighting. Mr Marks advocates leaving no incandescent light unshaded. He makes a careful distinction between the processes of general and local lighting.

*Abstract from paper by Mary E. Hall, Girls' high school, Brooklyn, read before N. Y. State library association, at Lake George, 1908.

Library Meetings

Chicago—The Chicago library club held its regular meeting Thursday evening, December 10. A large audience of librarians and teachers greeted Mrs Gudrun Thorne-Thomsen, formerly of the University of Chicago school of education, who spoke on Work with the children for the Chicago public library.

Mrs Thomsen began telling stories at the Chicago field-houses only last October and she could therefore not report anything very definite. She said, however, that there was already an increase in the circulation of children's books, and that teachers had noticed an improvement in the activities of many unresponsive children.

She said that the ideal way would be to have the stories told to small graded groups of six or seven and by a children's librarian who knows child nature, children's literature and the artistic value of the story. She expressed the hope that mothers might again be the story tellers as they were in years gone by.

She said that children came to hear stories primarily for entertainment, and that stories with an obvious purpose or moral are unpopular—of course, the good story contains both—but the child must not be told that it is there. Funny stories are repeatedly called for, and Little black Sambo by Helen Bannerman is always encored.

The club was very glad to see Mrs Salome Cutler Fairchild, who is spending the winter in Chicago. Mrs Fairchild asked for a story and Mrs Thomsen told the Pancake story, which was very much enjoyed.

BESS GOLDBERG, Sec'y.

Connecticut—At its fall meeting, held Oct. 29, 1908, the Connecticut library association was entertained by the Gilbert school library of Winsted.

H. H. Ballard, librarian of the Berkshire athenæum, Pittsfield, and president of the Massachusetts library club, was the first speaker, on Public documents

for the small library. He told first of a conversation he had had with the librarian of a small library who said that she looked forward to the meetings of the state association for a whole year not so much because of the ideas she received as the feeling it gave her that she was a part of the great whole and not an isolated worker.

Public documents

In regard to public documents, Mr Ballard said that a request to the Superintendent of documents at Washington would bring a pamphlet on documents, setting forth their benefits, how to obtain them, telling also of indexes to them, printed catalog cards, analyzing their contents, etc. He mentioned the Eclectic library catalog, published by the H. W. Wilson Company of Minneapolis, which in addition to indexing 20 magazines, gives notices of government documents likely to be useful to a small library. The remainder of Mr Ballard's remarks were given in rhyme and were so full of humor and common sense that the audience discovered that contrary to the usual opinion public documents was a most fascinating subject. He advised having only such documents as contain material likely to be used in one's own community and to know what is in them, then we shall be able to make them useful to others.

W. N. C. Carlton, librarian of the Trinity college library, Hartford, followed with a paper on the Arrangement and use of documents in a depository library. He said, in part, that a depository library receives a copy of every document published by Congress and practically all published by the different departments.

The arrangement advised for all libraries whether depository or not is the chronological. The Congressional or sheep-bound set should be shelved in the order of the Congresses and in the regular sequence of the groups into which the documents of each Congress are divided: Senate documents, Senate reports, etc. Arranged in this way they will stand in the order in which they are listed in

"Tables of and annotated index to the Congressional series of the United States public documents" issued in 1902. Beginning with the fifteenth Congress the volumes are numbered consecutively and these serial numbers used in this index should be put on the backs of the volumes.

Departmental issues, contrary to the general practice, Mr Carlton advises not to classify and embody in the general collection, but to keep separate and to arrange departmentally.

The arguments for the arrangement advocated are these: Many indexes to the Congressional sets have been published. A number of the departments and bureaus have issued lists of their publications and others are sure to appear. A library should secure all these and carefully check all the volumes it has. There is then no need of accessioning or shelf-listing the documents. These same lists usually contain an author and subject index to the publication listed. Consequently it is not necessary to catalog them. These indexes use the serial number in their references to author, subject and administrative department, hence the importance of arranging documents so that these indexes may be used.

In the discussion which followed it was mentioned that the following pamphlets are useful to small libraries: Bulletin number 21, issued by the New York state library school; Suggestive list of documents for small library, issued by the Philadelphia free library.

Reading habits of girls

The afternoon session was opened with an address by Clara W. Hunt, superintendent of the children's department of the Brooklyn public library. Her subject was the Reading of girls in their teens, or, The mediocre habit of reading among girls.

She began by outlining the stories of three books for girls, which are well liked by them and typical of many others, which she considered mediocre. They were Jamison's *Lady Jane*, Ray's *Nathalie's chum*, and Meade's *World of*

girls. These she considers have good points, but the plot and character drawing are improbable, or the atmosphere feverish and unhealthful.

She went on to say that girls are not to be made bad by reading a few mediocre books, but it is the quantity of such books that is the bad thing. A mental laziness is acquired which unfits a girl for strong, high literature. It is like the association with people of the common sort as opposed to that with the refined and cultured. We should choose books that lead up.

Why is it harmful to have a character in a story that is improbable? It unfits a girl for the enjoyment of the true. She comes to need the highly-spiced. A girl who has the mediocre habit becomes mediocre in character.

In choosing books we should keep out those that preach snobbishness, that talk about money too much; that discuss beaux and flirtations and beauty. We should avoid those in which the heroine is sorry for herself or the parents less wise than the children.

We should be careful to keep modern fiction away from the girls. We should have them read the good old novels. We have to buy some of the mediocre books, but let us use them as stepping stones.

Miss Hunt was followed by Principal Marcus White, of the New Britain normal school, who spoke on An old reading book. He said that the children's room is now the most important part of the library. It might well have over its door "Killed by Kindness." Much that we do for the children is not producing the results we had hoped for. Do children become familiar with the reading matter we give them and does it become a part of them and is it worth while?

Children read with too great rapidity. Things which are to make an impression on us we must live with and they should be of real worth.

When the speaker was a boy, there were no supplementary readers; a book was read over and over. As an illustration of the impression made upon him

by the continued reading of poems in his school reading-book, Mr White recited parts of those poems, and he said that others which he had learned at that time for certain occasions, he had completely forgotten.

Today the children do not live with good literature. This is necessary. Their thinking should not all be done for them.

Appropriate resolutions on the death of Ella E. Wiard and Emma Clifford Hammond were passed and the courtesy of the Gilbert school authorities was acknowledged.

GRACE A. CHILD, Sec'y.

District of Columbia—The regular monthly meeting of the association was held Nov. 18, 1908, at the Public library, with an attendance of about 75. President W. D. Johnston called the meeting to order. After the routine business of the meeting was disposed of, Peter Frank, foreman of the government bindery, presented the subject, Bookbinding for government libraries. He expressed the opinion that a desirable reform in binding would be the adoption, by agreement between librarians and publishers, of three standard sizes only for books. These should be: 12mo ($5\frac{1}{2} \times 7$ in.), octavo (6×9 in.) and quarto (9×12 in.). The first size might be used for books of history, fiction, etc.; the octavo size for periodicals and scientific books, and the quarto size for reference books. The advantages for libraries would be: the better appearance of books on the shelves and greater facility in their arrangement and handling.

Mr Frank asserted that the machine-sewed book is equal if not superior to the hand-sewed book, provided proper machines are used. Books machine sewed on tape, the thread being passed through the tape, are stronger and open more freely than hand-sewed books. Machine-sewed books will give 50 per cent more service in libraries than those sewed by hand.

Librarians were urged by the speaker to make an effort to induce publishers to forward periodicals in stitched form, with the covers stitched on with the text,

as the removal of the glue from magazines, in preparation for resewing, both weakens the backs of the signatures and increases the cost of binding.

In discussing materials Mr Frank recommended buckram as more serviceable than the majority of acid-dyed leathers used at the present day. For half-bound work Russia is the best of the cheaper leathers. Roan and the cheaper grades of morocco should be eliminated entirely. The finishing and embellishing of most books, for other than private libraries, should be very plain, both for the saving in cost and because the tooling with hot irons weakens the leather.

Soiled leather bindings may be cleaned with a mixture of three parts of warm water and one of vinegar, care being taken not to soak the leather. After the books are dry a little tallow thoroughly rubbed into the leather will help to keep it soft. Varnish should not be used, as it dries and cracks the leather.

Miltenberger N. Smull, superintendent of binding in the Public library, gave a description of the methods and materials used in binding at that library. The library has installed its own bindery, employing a foreman and three assistants. The speaker described in detail the various experiments, successful and unsuccessful, which have been tried during the past four years. At present the library is binding its fiction in cowhide, with cloth sides, sewing the books on tapes instead of twine bands. Books not often called for are bound in full buckram, cloth, art canvas, or art vellum, instead of leather, since leather when not handled dries and cracks. Morocco is kept for especially fine books, such as expensive art books, encyclopedias, etc. Newspapers are bound with duck backs and corners and paper sides. Buckram covers are stained a dark shade, that the lettering may show well. Only the heaviest books are sewed on twine bands. Those books which are sewed on tapes are usually whipstitched or overcast to render them stronger. The library employs only the best of materials, and prefers rebinding books to repairing them.

To prevent the "dry rot" of leather covers, vaseline, well rubbed in, has proved to be very effective. Missing title-pages and pages of text are supplied in type-writing, and even single drawings are sometimes copied and inserted.

A very complete exhibit of bound books, materials and appliances served to illustrate Mr Smull's interesting paper. At the close of the program light refreshments were served to the members and guests present.

WILLARD O. WATERS, Sec'y.

Kentucky—The first annual meeting of the Kentucky state library association was held at Frankfort, November 12-13. There were representatives from the public libraries of Covington, Frankfort, Harrodsburg, Lexington, Lawrenceburg, Versailles, Henderson and Louisville, also from Berea college, Eastern Kentucky normal school in Richmond, Georgetown college and the state library.

The first session was opened with reports from all these libraries. The history of the library, its problems and aims, its successes and failures were briefly outlined. Each report mentioned a problem or topic which called for the discussion and interchange of ideas which proved informing and helpful to everyone present. Under the magic influence of the earnestness of each speaker the session proved successful beyond expectation.

The State library reported as the oldest in the state, dating from 1792, the Lexington library was 102 years old. The Lawrenceburg library, the youngest, had opened its Carnegie building the week before, while the Frankfort public library expected to be open in December. From Harrodsburg came a very inspiring account of how the women had struggled to revive the library there.

In the evening about 150 people gathered in "Old Capitol" to listen to addresses by the Governor, Mrs Riker, president of the Kentucky Federation of women's clubs, and Secretary Hadley of the Indiana state library commission. Governor Willson graciously

welcomed "the friends of his friends the books" and was heartily applauded when he stated that he heard rumors of a State library commission and he would immediately surrender to the ladies.

Mrs Riker, in her paper, spoke of the coöperation of the Federation of women's clubs and the library workers. She said, "I can make a statement without fear of successful contradiction, the largest number of Kentucky libraries were not only organized by women's clubs, but are today supported and sustained by some organization of women."

Mr Hadley set before the people of Kentucky the work of the Indiana commission, giving an idea of how much could be done by a commission for library advancement in the state. At the close of the meeting a reception was given by the staff of the State library.

At the last session, held Friday morning, Marilla Freeman presented a paper on The library and publicity. This was followed by a round table and question box, conducted by Carrie Scott of Indiana.

The following were some of the questions discussed: Could a public library charge admission for any entertainments held in the library building? Conversation rooms especially in farming communities, Use of the library by the colored population, Story hour, Work with schools, Best encyclopedia for a small library, A periodical recommended for the review of new books, What to do with books of questionable moral tone, especially fiction.

The following resolutions were passed:

That the president appoint a committee to investigate the needs and desires of public libraries of Kentucky with regard to increasing the number of state documents for free distribution to such libraries; the committee to report at the next meeting.

Inasmuch as the State legislature does not meet until next year the committee on resolutions

Recommend that the president of the

association appoint a committee to report at the next meeting on the advisability of asking the next legislature to institute a State library commission for Kentucky.

The officers elected for the following year are: President, William F. Yust; vice-president, Anne M. Spears; secretary-treasurer, Harriet B. Gooch; member-at-large, Mrs W. M. Bartlett.

HARRIET B. GOOCH.

Maine—The fifteenth meeting of the Maine library association was held at the University of Maine library, Nov. 19-20, 1908, and was thoroughly successful. The total attendance was over 60, librarians coming from practically all parts of the state, an attendance from a wider territory than at any previous meeting.

An address of welcome was given by Dean Hart of the University of Maine and responded to by G. G. Wilder of Bowdoin college.

In a most humorous way, Miss Gilmore, librarian of Public library, Lewiston, told an allegorical story of a horse that was led to the spring, which process impressed the truth of the sign which was found there—even a librarian can lead a horse to water, but four and twenty cannot make him drink.

Miss Cochrane of the State library, Augusta, gave a most helpful address on How to care for the pamphlets.*

George T. Little, librarian of Bowdoin college, told what the small libraries can do for the larger ones in the matter of gathering up material of local interest. Being in closer touch with remote communities and rural habitations than the larger libraries are, letters, pamphlets, journals, and other historical material may be rescued from the oblivion of private garrets by the small libraries, which, if they cannot provide for it, will confer a favor by turning it over to the larger libraries of the state.

A round-table was conducted by W. P. Cutter of Forbes library, North-

ampton, Mass., where technical library matters were discussed.

An evening address on Home reading for children by Mrs Laura E. Richards was the treat of the meeting.

The problem of the new book by Frank L. Whitmore of Brockton advocated immediate purchase of technical books recommended by standard authorities and waiting for the decision of actual readers on the question of new novels.

Librarian E. W. Emery reviewed library legislation in Maine.

Miss Prescott, librarian, Auburn library, presented the need of a library organizer in Maine. The matter was referred to the State library commission, and the president of the association was instructed to appoint a committee to represent it before the legislature, if necessary, to obtain an appropriation from the legislature for this work.

Officers for the year were elected as follows:

President, Ernest W. Emery, state librarian, Augusta; vice-presidents, Prof. W. H. Hartshorn, member of the State library commission, Lewiston, and Evelyn L. Gilmore, librarian of the Lewiston public library; secretary, Gerald G. Wilder, assistant librarian of the Bowdoin college library, Brunswick; treasurer, Alice C. Furbish, librarian of the Portland public library.

Special exhibits of material were made by A. L. A. Publishing Board and Library Bureau.

Massachusetts—The Bay Path library club held its fall meeting in Brimfield, Mass., Thursday, November 5.

The meeting opened with an interesting paper on, Girls and their reading, by Alice G. Higgins of the Worcester public library. Miss Higgins stated that, boys like to read about definite events and places and may be treated as a class, while girls prefer to read about people, and as they are more sentimental, they must be treated as individuals. Several lists of books for girls of various ages

*This will appear in PUBLIC LIBRARIES later.

were read and in the discussion which followed many suggestions and experiences were given.

The afternoon session was held in the assembly hall of the Hitchcock free academy and was attended by the teachers and students as well as by many townspeople.

The first address was given by Rev. F. S. Child of Holland, Mass., on, A university atmosphere; reminiscences of good folk and great. The speaker was the son of a Harvard professor and has a great fund of stories and memories of famous men, such as Lowell, Holmes, Longfellow and others, whose names we reverence, but which were as familiar in his home as his own father's, and some of them were his own friends.

Caroline M. Hewins of the Hartford public library gave the club the benefit of her rich experience in the last paper of the afternoon with suggestions on. What town libraries can do for children. Miss Hewins told of very successful club work with children, for example, the lovers of the Hildegard books formed themselves into a club and read books which had been favorites with the little heroine. Others, who through a study of Romola, gained a love for Florence, Italy, formed a club for the study of Florence, whose artists and men of letters proved a delightful subject.

EMILY M. HAYNES, Sec'y.

North Carolina—The North Carolina library association held its fourth annual meeting at the Public library in Greensboro on November 12 and 13. Twenty-three members were present and 12 libraries were represented. In the absence of Mrs Annie Smith Ross, president, Annie F. Petty, second vice-president, presided.

The first session was held Thursday afternoon. G. A. Grimsley, of the board of trustees of the Public library, welcomed the visitors. Louis R. Wilson, secretary, responded to the welcome and expressed the special gratitude of the association for the splendid library supplement issued by the Greensboro *Telegram* of November 8, containing 41 arti-

cles relating to library work in the state. Reports from the secretary, treasurer, and committees were heard, and the general activity of the association was reviewed. Miss Petty presented a paper on the Library and the school, which was followed by a general discussion. At the close of the session, the visitors were shown the libraries of Greensboro female college and the State normal and industrial college.

At the evening session, after a welcome by Mrs Lucy H. Robertson, president of Greensboro female college, a review of the North Carolina library association was read for Mrs Ross by Miss Petty. An address on Some North Carolina incunabula and association books was given by Dr Stephen B. Weeks. A delightful informal reception was held at the close of the session.

Friday morning's session was in the form of a round-table meeting and proved unusually interesting and suggestive. The following topics were discussed: Library administration, by J. P. Breedlove; Use of debate and reference helps, by Julia White; Preparation of bulletins, by Bettie D. Caldwell; Classification and cataloging of pamphlets, by Louis R. Wilson; Library of Congress cards, by Inez Daughtry; What a State library commission can do for a small library, by J. F. Wilkes. Especial consideration was given the discussion of the work of a commission and a strong, interested committee was appointed to work for the creation of a commission at the next meeting of the legislature. The visitors were served a delicious luncheon at noon by the citizens of Greensboro at the home of Mrs L. B. Jeters.

Much business was transacted at the afternoon session. A change in the constitution was made providing for life and sustaining members in order that the strength of the association might be increased. It was also decided that the association should employ counsel, if necessary, in pushing the work of securing better library legislation. Officers were elected as follows: Annie F.

Petty, Greensboro, president; Mrs Lindsay Patterson, Winston-Salem, first vice-president; Ernest Cruikshank, Raleigh, second vice-president; Louis R. Wilson, Chapel Hill, secretary; J. F. Wilkes, Charlotte, treasurer. At the close of the session, the association was the guest of friends on a drive to the Guilford battle-grounds. LOUIS R. WILSON, Sec'y.

Pennsylvania—The first meeting of the season of 1908-1909 was held on Nov. 9, 1908, at the H. Josephine Widener branch of the Free library of Philadelphia. Upon motion, the reading of the minutes of the last meeting was omitted. The president, Mr Bailey, introduced the speaker of the evening, Dr Henry Leffmann, who, from his experience as a user of libraries for a period of 40 years, made some suggestions for improvement in library management.

Dr Leffmann stated that he was in the position of a bachelor uncle who formulates theories for the training of children, since he had never been a librarian; but he wished his hearers to understand that he did not intend to criticize library management as a result of dissatisfaction. His remarks were based upon a large experience in the use of libraries, chiefly as a student of special and scientific subjects. In his opinion the value of the library as an educational factor is perhaps greater than that of the school. All instructors know the difficulty of inducing students to read, rather than to skim through volumes in search of desired facts, and the library can fill a larger field in educational work than it has yet done, in creating a taste for reading.

One suggested improvement in library management was the removal of restrictions forbidding or limiting the circulation of bound periodicals. A second suggestion referred to the theft of books from libraries. As a preventive measure, it was proposed that librarians induce publishers to adopt a distinctive style or color for library binding, which would stamp a volume at once as the property of a library. This suggestion was made with reference to valuable

works rather than to fiction, and its value was illustrated by the story of a man who, by the simple expedient of having one red gore inserted into his umbrella, was never thereafter troubled to find it, as no one else would carry the umbrella. Dr Leffmann presented another point for consideration in the irregularity of sizes of books, and suggested that librarians bring pressure to bear upon publishers to secure some standard of size and uniformity in books, as the present lack of these qualities is due largely to carelessness or thoughtlessness only on the part of publishers.

In regard to the arrangement of books where free access to shelves is permitted, the speaker suggested that the books which are most frequently used be placed on the most accessible shelves. As to methods of classification used in local libraries, the vogue of many systems of classification shows that there is no thoroughly satisfactory one, just as the existence of 25 remedies for a disease shows that there is no known cure. Another improvement would be the placing of all texts of one work together; for example, the Greek or Latin original of a classic with all translations into modern languages.

There should be some effort at higher specialization in book selection, and the value of an organization like the Library club lies in the opportunities it affords for discussion and consultation, which may lead to less duplication of works of reference in different libraries. In consequence, some collections will contain certain sets of books which may be found there and nowhere else, and works on certain subjects will be found in certain libraries only. The preparation of a Union list of periodicals such as has been completed recently in Philadelphia, showing where desired volumes may be found, is very valuable, but it would be better for each library to have complete files of some periodicals, than for each to try to gather all. Librarians might unite in a general effort to discourage useless serial publications. They could also do away with some strange rules

which restrict the use of certain publications, neither objectionable in their contents, nor particularly valuable; for example, in one local library, *L'Inter-Médiaire*, a sort of *Notes and Queries*, which is published in Paris, is withheld from the regular periodical file and kept upstairs for the sole reason that it is printed on flimsy paper and will not stand much handling.

Dr Leffmann concluded by saying that his hearers would agree that the thoughts he had presented were not in the nature of severe criticism. He added a tribute to the courtesy and efficiency with which, as a general rule, he had met in his long experience in dealing with librarians. The talk was followed by discussion, chiefly on the subject of the circulation of bound periodicals. Arguments were advanced in favor of such circulation, while counter-arguments were adduced against the circulation of volumes which were indexed in Poole, as the experience of librarians had shown that when such volumes were taken from the library they were usually needed shortly thereafter for reference work.

EDITH BRINKMANN, Sec'y.

Notes for Calendar

A stated meeting of the Pennsylvania library club will be held on Monday, Jan. 11, 1909, at 8:15 p. m., at the H. Josephine Widener branch of the Free library of Philadelphia.

Montrose J. Moses, dramatic editor of *The Reader*, will speak on The experimental temptation of the attractive power of books vs the librarian's method. Reception and tea after the meeting.

The thirteenth annual meeting of the Pennsylvania library club and the New Jersey library association will be held at the Hotel Chelsea, Atlantic City, N. J., on Friday and Saturday, March 19-20, 1909. The Hotel Gladstone will be headquarters at the same rates as those granted in 1905 and 1906.

The Tennessee library association will hold its annual meeting in Nashville Jan. 12-14, 1909. There will be one joint meeting of the Tennessee library association and the Association of public school officers, when library and school legislation will be discussed.

MARY HANNAH JOHNSON, Sec'y.

The mid-winter meeting of the League of library commissions will be held in Chicago, Jan. 4-6, 1909. The first session will be on Monday at 2:30 p. m. The Stratford hotel will be headquarters and the meetings will be held in the banquet hall of the hotel. Rooms may be had on personal application to the hotel for them, from \$2 to \$4 a day.

Public Library Importation of Books

W. P. Cutter, chairman of the A. L. A. book-buying committee, appeared before the Ways and means committee of Congress on November 21, in regard to the proposed tariff on all books imported into the country. Mr Cutter protested, in the name of 6000 libraries, against the curtailment of the free importation which libraries have enjoyed for so long, and advocated that if any change is made it should be in the line of extending the privilege rather than of curtailing it.

In his address before the committee, Mr Cutter went into detail as to the financial transactions involved, making the point that the total importation of books was only 2.76 per cent of the total number of books in the country and that the free importation was only about 1.4 per cent of the total. About 20 per cent of the cost of manufacture of books, he claimed, was paid in wages to the printers. The proposed bill, as drawn, asks that the institutions of the country be taxed \$25 for every \$5 of production. Mr Cutter claimed that the duty of 25 per cent is greater than the cost of manufacture. He contended that the profit on the proposed law would go to the publishers and not to the printers, who were said to be backing it.

Mr Cutter pointed out that Section 2515 of the Revised statutes of the

United States, printed in 1878, makes provision on the free list for libraries, and that there is evidence that the law was adopted much earlier. A letter from Mr Cutter, relating to his appearance before the Ways and means committee, contains the following:

The New York Typothetæ, whom I understand to be the New York publishers under another name, have filed a brief asking the committee to stop free importation of all books for libraries, of all books in foreign languages, and to increase the duty on these books from the existing rate of 25 per cent ad valorem to a rate of 75 per cent. This rate is, of course, prohibitive, and would at once result in a general rise in the price of American books.

W. P. CUTTER.

A writer in the *New York Post* of December 9, on the question of copyright, showed that when the amendment permitting importation was offered in 1891, an effort was made at that time to compel buyers to obtain the consent of the owner of the American copyright before importation. This idea was vigorously opposed by Senator Sherman, Senator Carlisle, Senator Daniel, Senator Vance and others, and the argument offered expressed exactly the position taken by the opponents to the present copyright bill.

The editor of the *Evening Post* adds a note at the conclusion of the communication, as follows:

In the actual practice of the trade, we believe there is never any difficulty in obtaining the consent of the owners, when the request is properly presented.

Who shall decide when the request has been properly presented? To quote from Senator Sherman, "the very limitation requiring the consent of the man who is most interested against my buying a book wherever I choose is a sufficient objection to this bill."

The claims of the publishers received scant consideration from the legislators in 1891. It is most devoutly to be hoped that the legislators of the present day have as clear vision of the rights involved as those of the former period.

News from the Field

East

Florence B. Kimball, New York '06-7, has been appointed cataloger at the Vermont state library.

The library of the well-known author, Mrs Louise Chandler Moulton, who died last summer, was bequeathed to the Boston public library. The collection is strong in many first editions and autograph presentation copies from well-known authors.

Iva M. Young has resigned her position on the staff of the Mt Holyoke college library to accept that of librarian of the Industrial institute and college, Columbus, Miss. Miss Young was for several years a member of the staff of the City library, Springfield, Mass.

The largest single gift of books to the Harvard college library has just been announced. It is made up of 11,887 v. of historical, biographical, scientific, classical and other works in the library of the late Richard Ashurst Bowie of Philadelphia. The gift was presented by Edward D. Brandegee of Brookline.

A gift of a prayer book, compiled by Benjamin Franklin and valued at \$1500, has been presented to the John Carter Brown library, Providence, R. I. The volume is bound in red Morocco, with richly tooled gold border and back. Franklin worked on the book in England in 1773.

The Harvard university library exhibited its splendid collection of Milton's works during the recent anniversary period. The exhibition was arranged as nearly as possible in chronological order from Milton's first pamphlet in 1641. The interest of the exhibit was greatly enhanced by the rare Milton items contained in the Ticknor collection.

Central Atlantic

The Newark library has 4000 German books. Twelve German magazines are received regularly and may be borrowed for home reading.

Isadore G. Mudge, who went abroad in October, 1907, for a year of travel and bibliographic work in foreign libraries, has recently returned to this country.

The Public library of Binghamton, N. Y., is having an exhibit of fine bindings, loaned by a celebrated binder because of the interest in handicraft shown by Librarian Seward.

Minnie Earl Sears, who, in 1907, resigned her position as head cataloger at the Bryn Mawr college library for a year of travel and study abroad, has recently returned to this country.

Dr A. S. Draper, commissioner of education of New York, appointed Frederick D. Coleson of Ithaca law librarian in the State library. Mr Coleson on December 1 succeeded Frank B. Gilbert, who was appointed chief of the law division of the education department.

The Public library of Kearney, N. Y., reports a circulation of 43,913 v. from a collection of 4600 v., with a borrowers' list of 2120, and a population of 15,000. Borrowers are allowed to take as many nonfiction books as they desire, provided they are not all from the same class.

The James V. Brown library of Williamsport, Pa., held its second annual exhibition of permanent and loan collections, December 14-19. The most notable loan was the portrait of George Washington by Rembrandt Peale, painted in 1795 from life. It is owned by Mrs George L. Sanderson of Philadelphia. Reproductions of the panels composing Abbey's frieze of the Holy Grail were hung in the children's room.

The New Jersey public library commission has made little exhibits of cotton, silk and flax, and their evolution into dress material, with samples of the stuffs as they pass through the different processes. These exhibits are being loaned to schools and libraries. The cotton exhibit has cotton from the raw state to the printed material, with samples of the spindles, mules, etc., and pictures of mills, gins and cotton fields.

The silk exhibit has the silk all the way from the silk worm eggs to the finished spool of silk, with pictures to accompany, and the flax exhibit is complete from the flax in flower to the finished bleached linen, with pictures to illustrate. These exhibits are neatly put up and labeled.

Worthington C. Ford, since 1902 chief of the division of manuscripts in the Library of Congress, has been elected editor of the publications of the Massachusetts historical society. The duties of his new position began January 1. Gaillard Hunt, in the state department since 1887, in the Bureau of citizenship, will succeed Mr Ford in the Library of Congress. Mr Hunt is widely known as a frequent contributor to American history.

The Pratt institute free library, Brooklyn, N. Y., reports an increase in circulation for the year of 21,544 v., reaching a total circulation of 192,564 v. An interesting entry is the various occupations noted of those using the library. The privilege of taking eight books at a time, of which two may be novels, was granted during the summer. This library has a very special collection of trade catalogs. The report makes mention of a successful plan for their arrangement and indexing. A new phase of story telling is that of the organization of a Juniors' story tellers' league, where the boys and girls alternately take charge of the proceedings and tell the stories. A special point has been made in the activities of the library of exhibits relating to feast days, holidays, birthdays, etc.

The Morrisania branch of the New York public library, fronting on McKinley Square, in the Borough of the Bronx, was opened with formal exercises on Tuesday afternoon, December 1. The building has been open for some time for the reception of applications and public circulation of books was begun on December 2. At the opening exercises the city was represented by the Hon. Arthur Woods, Deputy com-

missioner of police, who received the building on behalf of the mayor from the trustees of the public library, who were represented by Henry W. Taft. Addresses were also made by James L. Wells, representing the residents of the North Side, and by Dr John S. Billings, director of the library. This branch is the fifth to be established in the Borough of the Bronx.

Central

Mrs Nellie Nash, for the past 20 years librarian of Ottawa, Ill., died November 29.

Mrs Carrie Lane Chapman Catt has presented the Charles City (Ia.) public library with a large collection of books from her late husband's library.

Agnes J. Field, assistant librarian of the Public Library, Council Bluffs, Ia., died in Omaha, Nov. 18, 1908. Miss Field was a graduate of the University of Iowa, class of 1907, and spent the year 1907-8 at the New York state library school.

Mrs Anna L. Petittlerc, for 14 years assistant librarian of Reddick library of Ottawa, Ill., has been elected to succeed the late Mrs Nash as librarian of Public library of that city. Harriet Nash, daughter of the latter, has been made assistant librarian.

Elva Bascom, for a number of years in New York state library, has been made editor of the *A. L. A. Book List*. Katherine I. McDonald, formerly editor, resigned her position and was married to Hon. Burr Jones, of Madison, Wis., in September.

The thirty-ninth annual report of the Cleveland (O.) library, just issued, records 1,671,865 v. loaned for home use during the year, an increase over the preceding year of 120,851 v. The registration shows over 100,000 borrowers' cards in use, an increase of about 10 per cent. The director of the children's work reports that the issue of books for home use to children reached a total of 648,333 v. The stations department of children's work has a col-

lection of 52,697 v. Its work includes 50 stations of various sorts and five high school libraries. It issued for home use through these agencies 200,758 v.

The Decatur (Ill.) public library has received a gift of an original photograph of Lincoln and his family. The gift came from the family of Dennis Hanks, a cousin of President Lincoln. The picture is in the frame in which it was presented to the original owner.

The students in the Illinois state library school are furnishing a column of library news to a local paper as practice in that class of work. Book notices, reading lists, selected new books, magazine articles, and notices about the use of the library make a weekly bulletin for the university.

Minnie M. Oakley, so long and favorably known in connection with the work of the Wisconsin historical library, has resigned her position in that institution and removed to California. Miss Oakley will rest during the winter at Santa Ana and will not take up her work again for a year or so. She mourns the loss of her mother, who died suddenly in October on the eve of their leaving Wisconsin.

In response to an invitation extended to James Ford Rhodes, the historian of the American Civil war, to visit the University of Illinois, and which he was unable to accept, he sent to the university a set of his history of United States since the Compromise of 1850, in seven volumes. In the first volume he placed the following inscription:

With appreciation of the great and good work that is being done by the University of Illinois.

The University of Wisconsin has received a gift of the extensive library collection belonging to the late Henry Demarest Lloyd. The collection is particularly rich in material on trade unions, coöperation, socialism, municipal ownership and monopolies. A library of several thousand volumes, pamphlets

and clippings will strengthen materially the collections in the university on economics, political science and history.

South

J. C. Gilmore of Charleston, W. Va., a colored editor of a weekly newspaper, was appointed state librarian of West Virginia, December 3.

The report of the Raney library at Raleigh, N. C., shows a circulation of 28,951 v., 9285 v. on the shelves, and an income of \$3209. The expenditure for books and periodicals was \$553.

A public library incorporated under the state laws was organized at Abbeville, La., November 20. A library was furnished and maintained for a number of years by the Woman's club. The property of the latter has been turned over to the new library.

A state library association, in connection with the Virginia educational conference, was organized November 28. The following officers were elected: President, W. H. Sargeant, Norfolk public library; secretary, W. M. Black, Jones memorial library, Lynchfield; treasurer, E. G. Sworn, assistant state librarian, Richmond.

Miss E. G. Webber, formerly assistant librarian and head cataloger of the Norfolk (Va.) public library, who has been absent on a leave for some time on account of ill health, has resigned. The board on accepting the resignation placed on record resolutions of appreciation of the services of Miss Webber. Elizabeth Sutton was appointed to succeed Miss Webber as chief cataloger.

The library building of the William Jewell college, Liberty, Mo., was opened on December 11.

The students of the college to the number of 600 were given a holiday and helped move the books into the new quarters. Twenty thousand books were moved by the students.

The new building is the result of a gift of \$20,000 subscribed by the students, \$30,000 from Andrew Carnegie

and \$15,000 raised by the college. Work on the structure was begun in March, 1907. It is a fireproof building of concrete, brick and stone, splendidly equipped with all modern library conveniences and furnished by the Library Bureau throughout.

This library contains the very valuable collection of books left by the Rev. Charles Spurgeon of England.

West

Marion V. Higgins, formerly of the State agricultural college of Colorado, has taken charge of a new branch library of Pueblo, Colo.

Mrs Nettie K. Gravett, of the State agricultural college of Colorado library, has been made librarian of the Public library of Salida, Colo.

Reba Day has been made librarian of Longmont, Colo. Miss Day was formerly connected with the State agricultural college of Colorado.

The Public library at Provo, Utah, was opened to the public December 1, with interesting ceremonies. In the afternoon a reception was given for the children, to which 2000 of them came. In the evening the citizens were received by the board of trustees and short speeches were made by Mayor C. F. Decker and Dr F. W. Taylor. Music and refreshments were served. The guests received a card containing a miniature picture of the library building. The institution has a bright future before it.

At the recent meeting of the Library commission of North Dakota the resignation of Zana K. Miller as secretary was accepted with regret. Resolutions were passed expressing appreciation of the work she had done and declaring that the library interests of North Dakota will always owe a debt of gratitude for the enthusiasm, integrity and technical ability of its first organizer. The supervision of the work of the commission until April 1, 1909, was placed in the hands of its secretary, Mrs Minnie C. Budlong.

Pacific Coast

Beatrice J. Barker, New York '04, has resigned her position as assistant cataloger at the University of California, to become head of the catalog department at the University of Oregon.

The late John Q. Packard, who gave to Salt Lake City, Utah, its public library building, did not give a library building to the city of Santa Cruz, Cal., the library building there having been erected with money donated by Andrew Carnegie.

The cornerstone of the new library building of the University of California was laid November 25. Charles F. Doe, a very wealthy lumber merchant, bequeathed one-fourth of his estate for the erection and endowment of the library, amounting to about three-quarters of a million. The building will contain book capacity for nearly 400,000 v. The library already has a collection of some 260,000 v. and over 100,000 manuscripts.

Foreign

Thomas Greenwood, for many years prominent in the British library movement, died November 9, after several years of ill health.

Much of the widespread interest in the work of public libraries in England is due to the active, personal interest which Mr Greenwood gave to the subject. He was the author of "Public libraries," a comprehensive work on the history, aim and object of public libraries and which went through five editions. Some years ago he began to collect books, manuscripts and pictures on the subject of libraries and bibliography. These he presented to the corporation of Manchester with an endowment, to be arranged and made available for a librarians' library.

The library cause of England has lost one of its most active and effective champions in the death of Mr Greenwood. A short sketch of his life and work is given in *Library World* for December, 1908, p. 202-203, where reference is made to a fuller account in the same journal, 1:116-121.

The Longmans' edition of Lange's Fairy books has been bound in the Chivers patent binding for library use. A special discount was made on them during the last few months. The books are of the best edition and gave special opportunity for libraries to secure popular books in this special binding.

The Story Hour is the name of a little magazine, the second number of which appeared in December, sent out from 406 Fifth st. N. W., Washington, D. C. It is published in the cause of the National story tellers' league.

Mr Dewey and Miss Seymour, with two assistants, are busily at work on the new edition of the D. C., Library school catalog rules, and some other publications. The printer is already working on some of the new D. C. tables, and, after seven years' delay, it looks as if the sections of the seventh edition would shortly begin to appear and follow steadily till completed. The use of the D. C. spreads steadily. A recent letter announced translations in four or five more languages, including Esperanto. It is also being introduced in the South American countries.

The series of pamphlets on library economy, which J. C. Dana has planned and of which he has issued No. 1 on the Registration desk, deserves the careful attention of libraries, librarians, library schools and library commissions. The work is of such a character that it can be published only by subscription. The first pamphlet has been issued and argues well for the rest of the series.

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